

JPRS 80546

12 April 1982

South and East Asia Report

No. 1123



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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DISCUSSION OF LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE

BK270615 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1110 GMT 26 Mar 82

[From the "Australian Insight" Program]

[Text] This is "Australian insight" and I am (Judith Hinckey). The Australian prime minister, Mr Fraser, is facing a potential challenge to his leadership from within the ranks of his own political party, the liberals. The challenge is being mounted by supporters of a former Australian foreign minister, Mr Peacock, who is now only a back benche member of parliament. (Bill Nicholl) reports from Canberra:

This week in Canberra has seen the most intense speculation about a possible leadership challenge against the prime minister by a senior member of his party, Mr Peacock. This is not the first time there has been such speculation. What is different now, however, is that Mr Peacock's supporters are, for the first time, telling reporters they believe they have the numbers to move against Mr Fraser. Whereas a leadership challenge was before only a possibility, that challenge is now being touted as imminent.

The antipathy between Mr Peacock and Mr Fraser surfaced in April last year when Mr Peacock resigned from federal cabinet. At the time of his resignation he was serving as minister for industrial relations. Before holding the industrial relations portfolio Mr Peacock had been Australia's foreign minister, a position he had held in this and previous governments.

Mr Peacock announced his resignation at a news conference in Parliament House at which he scathingly attacked the prime minister:

[Begin Peacock Recording] I believe the prime minister is engaged in acts of gross disloyalty to me and to my office. The prime minister has consistently allowed gross and damaging reports to be published about me in my capacity as a senior minister; he has bypassed the system of government by acting with a manic determination to get his own way, and I find the constant disloyalty and erratic acts of behavior intolerable and not to be endured. It is quite impossible to carry out effectively the duties of a sensitive and extremely difficult and important portfolio while the prime minister, both overtly and seeks to undermine the authority of a senior minister. [End recording]

Six months after he gave this press conference Mr Peacock's supporters caused a storm within the liberal party as they sought to get the numbers within the parliamentary party to displace Mr Fraser and replace him with Mr Peacock as prime minister. The party's federal executive threatened publicly to take action against anyone creating divisiveness and instability within the party. As well as this, the deputy liberal leader, Sir Philip Lynch, and the treasurer, Mr Howear, publically supported Mr Fraser against Mr Peacock. No moves were made at the time to force a vote within the liberal party on the leadership question. Some observers described the moves by Mr Peacock's supporters as a political guerrilla war.

It has now been 5 months since that outbreak between the Fraser and Peacock camps, and it is almost a year since Mr Peacock's resignation. Some reports now suggest that if Mr Peacock is to make his move for the party leadership he might have to do so soon. Mr Peacock must have it in mind that stagnating on the back bench for too long could risk his chances of ever mounting a successful challenge.

Mr Fraser's strength within the party lies in his capacity to win elections. He has led his party to three election victories. In 1975 and 1977 he won record majorities, but at the election in 1980 there was a swing against his party which only just won office with a vote 1.5 percent better than that of the labor opposition. More recently there was the federal byelection for the New South Wales seat of Lowe. The government held the seat before the election, but not afterward, as a nine percent swing swept it into labor's hands. Next are the victorian state elections on 3 April. If opinion polls are correct the 27-year old victorian state liberal government will fall to labor. If it does observers believe that Mr Peacock's supporters will move against Mr Fraser.

Such speculation has drawn Sir Philip Lynch, Mr Fraser's party deputy, to declare that all federal liberal ministers support the prime minister. Mr Peacock has until now remained silent on the possibility of his challenging Mr Fraser--at least that was until this week. In a surprise statement on the leadership issue he said just a couple of days ago, and I quote: this could be dealt with at any time by Malcolm--that's Mr Fraser--by Malcolm calling a party meeting and settling it now. I have no aversion to that course, but the fact is that we are not challenging at the moment. End of quote.

The first party meeting for the liberals after the victorian election is 21 April. All eyes in Canberra will be watching that day with special interest.

CSO: 4220/449

AUSTRALIA, SWEDEN HOLD TALKS ON URANIUM SUPPLY

BK301341 Hong Kong AFP in English 0111 GMT 30 Mar 82

[By Frank Chamberlain]

[Text] Canberra, 30 Mar (AFP)--Sweden's uranium agreement with Australia comes into force in a few months, with Industry Minister Nils Asling and Deputy Australian Prime Minister Doug Anthony agreeing on the supply of regular uranium for Swedish power stations.

This was the central theme of long talks this week between the Swedish and Australian ministers during the official visit of King Carl XVI Gustaf, whose party includes Mr Asling and Swedish officials eager to consolidate the growing trade between the two countries.

There are 23 Swedish subsidiary companies operating in manufacturing in Australia. In the last financial year, Australia imported goods worth 300.6 million U.S. dollars, including motor vehicles, iron and steel, machinery, electrical appliances, chemicals and paper.

Australia hopes to increase its food supplies to Sweden, which already include beef, veal, vegetables and fruit.

Trade has reached such an important level, that the Swedish and Australian Governments have decided to confer more frequently. The Swedish diplomatic mission has been long-established here, but unlike most other diplomatic missions, it will not be reduced in staff.

Mr Asling told A.F.P. today that he was delighted with the sympathy shown by the Australian Government in trade between two countries "so far apart, so different in geographical volume, but so similar in the size and capacity of the populations."

"The Australian Government, after some hesitation, has now agreed to send a senior minister to the regional trade conference in Stockholm next month. He will be the minister for social security, Senator Fred Chaney," he said.

In addition to being briefed on trade matters, Senator Chaney will study the social service system of Sweden, which has often been quoted by the Australian labor operation party as an example for Australia to follow.

Australia and Sweden have decided to study the price of iron ore so that officials from the two governments can participate in the international moves for stability in the price of iron ore.

The Swedish king and his party are also scheduled to attend a Swedish week in Sydney, after their stay in Canberra.

CSO: 4220/449

WORLD BANK ESTIMATES BANGLADESH AID NEEDS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 6 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] The World Bank has estimated Bangladesh's foreign aid requirement for the financial year 1982-83 at 2.6 billion dollars, an official source said in Dacca on Friday.

Talking to ENA the source said the estimate was made by the World Bank in consultation with Bangladesh officials to give the donors an indication of the aid requirement before the Consortium meeting scheduled for third week of April in Paris.

Of the total amount 1,600 million dollars will be required in the form of project assistance, 700 million dollars as commodity assistance and 280 million dollars as food aid, according to the source.

Bangladesh is, however, preparing a separate memorandum specifying its aid needs in various sectors of economy for circulation among the donors.

The total aid committed to Bangladesh by donors in the current financial year (1981-82) was about 2.1 billion dollar. Of the amount 1.25 billion dollars have been disbursed by the donor countries

The members of the Aid Bangladesh Consortium provides about 75 per cent of the foreign aid received by the country. The remaining amount is extended by Middle Eastern and oil producing and exporting group (OPEC) countries and East European Socialist countries.

CSO: 4220/7995

IDA \$27 MILLION CREDIT TO BANGLADESH REPORTED

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 6 Mar 82 p 7

[Text] Bangladesh will move closer to self-sufficiency in food with the assistance of a credit from the International Development Association (IDA). To foster increased food production, the World Bank affiliate is lending SDR 23 2 million (Dollar 27 million) for a Second Agricultural Extension and Research Project.

Under the Dollar 40.9 million project, the Extension-Research System will be expanded from five districts to 15 of the 21 Agricultural Districts in Bangladesh. The emphasis will be on irrigation farming. Production of rice and wheat is expected to increase by 4 percent. Some 2,330 extension staff positions will be created.

A coconut research station at Rahmatpur, now serving the Barisal area, will be expanded into a regional station with a special interest in tree crops. Development of regional stations in Jessore, Jamalpur, Ishurdi, and Hathazari, and substations at Bogra, Thakurgaon, Rangpur, and Rajshahi, which already receive IDA support, will be completed under the new project. An assessment of the work of all research stations is underway, and a plan of action is expected to be completed by the end of 1982.

The [words illegible] reorganization of five existing extension services under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests were to have taken place under the first project. As the completion of plans took longer than expected, a revised schedule for the merger is included in the second project. The unified service will be the responsibility of a new department of Agriculture Extension in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Dacca, IDA Credit and by a Dollar 3 million contribution from the United Nations Development Programme.

Under the first project, a new system of training and visits for extension work was introduced in the northwest region. During the past four years, wheat production in the project area increased more than in any other region in Bangladesh. While the project's influence on production cannot be isolated from other factors, such as weather and investment in irrigation, the project area showed the largest increase in the use of fertilizer.

The IDA credit to Bangladesh is for a term of 50 years including 10 years of grace. It is interest-free but carries a service charge of 3/4 of one percent a year to help cover administration costs, says a press release.

SPLIT IN DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE BECOMES FINAL

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 8 Mar 82 pp 1,8

[Text] The split in the Democratic League became final on Sunday when an extended meeting of the Central Working Committee of the Party convened by General Secretary Shah Moazzem Hossain at his Gulshan residence suspended the party chief Khondker Moshtaque Ahmed on 101 charges including embezzlement of fund, anti-party and undemocratic activities.

The meeting also suspended five other leaders of the party. They were Vice-President Oali Ahad, Cultural Secretary Prof Mominul Huq, Additional Office secretary Nurul Huq, Mia Abdur Rashid and Mr Golam Morshed, members of the Working Committee.

Mr Abdur Rab Chowdhury, one of the Vice-Presidents from Kushtia was made Acting President of the Party in place of Khondker Moshtaque Ahmed.

The meeting decided to serve show cause notices, returnable within 15 days, on the suspended leaders. Their final fate would be decided during the council meet of the party scheduled in June next, the meeting observed.

Khondker Moshtaque Ahmed in another meeting of the Working Committee, suspended Party General Secretary Shah Moazzem Hossain and Agricultural Secretary Mia Musa Hossain on March 1. The meeting was convened by Khondker Moshtaque himself and held at his residence.

Sunday's meeting was attended by 29 out of 52 members of the Working Committee, according to a party source. Out of a total 60-member Working Committee, eight members had earlier quit the party and joined the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP).

Presided over by Mr Abdur was addressed by Mia Musa Rab Chowdhury, the meeting Hossain, Organising Secretary Shamim Al-Mamun, Education Secretary Principal Ershadullah Joint Education Secretary Principal Nur Jahan Begum, Acting Office Secretary Abdul Bari Warsi, Women's Affairs Secretary Mrs Amina Bari, Joint Women's affairs Secretary Eklima Ara Sharafat, Alhaj M.A. Raquib and Abdul Mannan, members of the Working Committee.

Sources close to the meeting claimed that Shamim Al-Mamun and Mr Shahidul Alam Sayeed, Acting President and General Secretary respectively of Democratic Jubo

Front, Gazi Abul Kashem and M.H. Shah Montu Joint Conveners of Gono Sangram Parishad, Mr M.A. Mannan, General Secretary, City [word illegible] Mr Md Yusuf and Sheikh Md Shahidullah, President and General Secretary of Democratic Kri-
snak League, Mr Khorshed Alam and Mr Ahsanullah Chowdhury, President and General Secretary, respectively of Democratic Hawkers' League, Mr Rafiqul Hossain Kajal and Mr Anwar Hossain, Joint Conveners of Gonotantrik Chhatra League and extended their total support to the action taken by the Centrl Committee against Knondker Moshtaque Ahmed and other five party leaders.

Sources claimed that the meeting was attended by about 700 delegates from all over the country.

CSO: 4220/7000

BANGLADESH MUSLIM LEAGUE CALLS FOR ISLAMIC STATE

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 8 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] Bangladesh Muslim League has called upon the leaders of all the factions of the party to merge themselves with BML to make it a single strong party for establishing an Islamic state with a constitution based on Quran and Sunnah.

Addressing the inaugural session of the third council meeting at the Shilpakala Academy on Sunday, its leaders said "only a united Muslim League can achieve its desired goal of making Bangladesh an Islamic Republic."

Presided over by the Acting President Mr M.A. Matin, MP, the inaugural session was addressed among others by Vice Presidents Mrs Razia Faiz, MP, Mr A.N.M. Yousuf, G.A. Ghani, Mr Mashiul Azam Khan and Nurul Anwar Chowdhury, General Secretary Kazi Abul Kader, Organising Secretary Zamir Ali, Almas Hossain, MP Joint Secretaries; Ibrahim Hossain and Mohammed Hossain Babul, Khalilur Rahman, MP, Khandakar Abdul Qaiyum and Delwar Hossain.

The council session began with obituary reference to Khan A. Sabur, the founder-President of the party. While paying glowing tributes to him the meeting described late Khan A. Sabur as a "national leader" of Bangladesh and a "prominent personality" in Afro-Asian countries.

Placing the condolence resolution before the council meeting the Acting President of the party Mr M.A. Matin, MP, recalled Khan A. Sabur's contribution to the politics of sub-continent and said that Khan A. Sabur "had immense love for Islam and he always dreamt of establishing an Islamic state with a constitution based on Quran and Sunnah".

Referring to the unification of all faction of Muslim League, Mr Matin said that he hoped that the other factions would certainly want to make the party stronger if they intended to "establish Islamic Republic of Bangladesh".

He said that Khan A. Sabur had formed a sub-committee with Mr A.N.M. Yousuf as its chairman to negotiate with the leaders of other factions on the question of merger.

The committee is continuing its negotiation and all the factions will untie, he hoped.

Turning to the foreign policy, Mr Matin said that his party believed in friendship with all and malice to none. His party favoured closer and brotherly ties with the Muslim world and closer cooperation with Third World countries, he said.

Mr Matin criticised Soviet Union for "occupying Afghanistan" and expressed his party's solidarity with the Mujahedin, fighting to liberate their country.

Kazi Kader, General Secretary, said that late Khan A. Sabur tried his best to "salvage Bangladesh from Soviet and Indian influences" in his life time. He said "neither India nor Soviet Union is our friend. They are aggressors and they will continue their aggression on smaller nations", the said.

Tracing the history of independence, Kazi Kader maintained that the emergence of Bangladesh was possible only due to emergence of Pakistan. He claimed that "Muslim League only could protect Bangladesh. None also can protect it".

Criticising both Awami League and ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party Kazi Kader said that Awami League had brothers into pieces while BNP had turned into a family of widows'. He said that BNP would not be able to retain power for long. "Power will surely come to Muslim League if we can shun petty interests, he said.

Referring to his party's support to the President Justice Abdus Sattar in the last presidential election Kazi Kader said "it was tactical".

Party Chief Not Elected

Bangladesh Muslim League, at its third council meeting failed to elect their new party chief in the wake of opposition by the councillors on Sunday.

The councillors rejected the proposal of electing the successor to the late Khan A. Sabur on the plea that the merger or amalgamation of all the factions into a united Muslim League should be undertaken first before the election of the President.

The top leaders of the party, however, made several attempts to persuade the councillors so that the election of party chief could be possible. The question of unification can be tackled later, they felt.

There are six factions of Muslim League. Each has its chief, who may become contenders for the post of the president of the united Muslim League.

CSO: 4220/7000

BANGLADESH

HASINA ADDRESSES AWAMI LEAGUE 7 MAR OBSERVANCE

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 8 Mar 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] Sheikh Hasina Wajed, President, Bangladesh Awami League (Hasina) reiterated her party's stand to implement Baksal programme for economic emancipation of the downtrodden masses of the country

Addressing a meeting organised by her party in observance of the historic March 7 at Baitul Mukarram she called upon the people to forge unity to uphold the ideals of the Liberation War.

Sheikh Hasina Wajed urged all progressive patriotic and democratic forces to forge unity to established an exploitation free society. There is urgent need for unity of the pre-liberation forces for safe-guarding the country's independence and sovereignty she added.

Presided over by party chief Sheikh Hasina the meeting was also addressed by party General Secretary Mr. Abdur Razzak Organising Secretary Mr. Tofayel Ahmed Mr Abdus Samad Azad and Mr. Zillur Rahman members of the Presidium Mr. Hanif President city unit and Mr. Amir Hussain Amu, President Jubo League.

Sheikh Hasina said that the ideals and objectives for which the Liberation War was fought were being ignored today.

She said that only Awami League (Hasina) has the right to rule the country. She said that the Governments which came to power after August 15, 1975 had been using "the armed forces" for coming to power. So they are demanding share of power. Awami League believes that Army should do its duty of defending the country's independence and sovereignty.

Posing a question, she wanted to know the reason of the formation of National Security Council (NSC) Criticising the denationalisation policy of the present Government she said that the industrial establishments were being returned to the 'Pakistani' after giving them Bangladesh citizenship The interest of the employees and workers is being ignored in the process of retraining the industrial units to the former "Pakistani' owners, she alleged She further said that the four state pillars were being ignored

Criticising the high prices of commodities, she said that during the last six years Bangladesh economy has been shattered.

On this day in 1971 "Bangobandhu" Sheikh Mujibur Rahman declared the war of independence at a historic public meeting at Suhrawardy Undyan. The liberation was achieved by the armed struggle of the people in nine months and we inherited a war shattered economy, she said. Bangobandhu ruled the country in what she termed at a very critical situation. When he declared his second revolution programmes of Baksal, he was killed by the agents of imperialist forces, she said.

Mr. Abdur Razzak, criticising "Dainik Ittefaq" for what he claimed publishing a manufactured new item involving Indian High Commissioner in the country, said that though former Editor of Ittefaq, Manik Mia had substantial contribution to the liberation struggle of Bangladesh, the present management of Ittefaq has enrolled itself in the CIA list.

Mr. Razzak said that a conspiracy was going on in the country against the liberation and the pro-liberation forces would resist such move by all means. Territorial independence without economic emancipation becomes meaningless, the party general secretary said.

Mr. Razzak said that his party would remain with the working journalists in future as it was in the past. Advising the journalists to write objective news, he said that Ittefaq will have to regret for publishing a "false" news item.

Mr. Abdus Samad Azad, demanding release of political detenus including Mr. Latif Siddique, said the Government had failed to keep its promise in this regard. Criticising Ittefaq, he said that the daily did not publish fully his party's protest on the news item on Indian High Commissioner's visit to AL(H) office.

Mr. Zillur Rahman said that at the call of 'Bangobandhu' Sheikh Mujibur Rahman people took up arms and fought the Liberation War. Criticising the anti-liberation forces, he said that they were trying to distort the history of the Liberation War.

He said that Awami League gave leadership in all patriotic and progressive movements in the country since 1948.

Mr. Tofayel Ahmed said that in the name of confessional statements by some of the recently arrested miscreants there was a conspiracy to destroy the image of Awami League. He also criticised the government for not constructing any mausoleum for Bangobandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman when such mausoleums were being built for mazars of Nazimuddin and late President Ziaur Rahman. He said that there was conspiracy against Hasina which means against Awami League so to say Bangladesh. There has been no evaluation of the liberation history of the country, Mr. Hanif said. posing a question he wanted to know why March 7 is not being observed officially since August change over of 75. March 7 taught us to resist all sorts of oppression and autocracy, he said.

DEVELOPMENTS IN HASINA'S AWAMI LEAGUE REVIEWED

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 7 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Awami League (Hasina) shows no sign of coming out of the political wilderness into which it has lost its way and purpose after it went all out in pursuit of an alien and undemocratic Baksal ideology. The crisis of leadership is showing at every turn. And as the largest opposition party its absence of leadership and firm decision making has contributed to the weak and disorganised state of the opposition both inside and outside parliament. Its reaction to the recent furore over the alleged misbehaviour of the Indian High Commissioner Mr Machkund Dubey toward an NSI official has also exposed this party's total alienation from the people of the country. The daily Ittefaq had published a report, based on FIR lodged with the police and also a certain official source which claimed that before the incident of Mr. Dubey's manhandling of an NSI Officer at Gulshan Market the High Commissioner had visited the Awami League's office near Gulistan. The Awami League contradicted that part of the report and Ittefaq, even though its information was derived from FIR and a certain official source, did publish the rejoinder and gave it as much prominence as was its due. But it seems that the Baksali faction within Awami League with its ideological compulsion of gagging and intimidating the free press and right of dissent had its way.

They threatened Ittefaq which is an independent daily and has always been giving due coverage to Awami League's activities. The Awami League has mistaken its target. They should have challenged the source of information. Although it can be said the Ittefaq relied on undependable source for the report, even then the daily in its editorial demanded an enquiry into the whole affair. Instead, the Baksalis went on venting their spleen against a newspaper which has always upheld people's cause and supported healthy opposition.

The fascistic approach to the controversy has reminded the people of what the young turks in the party actually stand for and how they had misled Sheikh Mujib and made him a prisoner of anti-democratic and leftist interests during his last days.

Meanwhile reaction to the A.L's anti-press bluster was sharp. The Dacca Union of Journalists and Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists have criticised the Awami League's bid to intimidate the press. The leaders of the journalists' unions in a joint statement said that they felt that the language

and content of the Awami League presidium's resolution "runs counter to the principles of democracy, tolerance and freedom of the press." They further observed that the Ittefaq properly published the rejoinder. Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad (Newspapers Association) also condemned the attitude of Awami League (Hasina) towards the press.

Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, President and Nur-e-Alam Siddiqui, General Secretary of Awami League (Mizan) said this is not a threat to the freedom of the press alone but also a threat to democratic values. Demanding a government explanation on the Gulshan incident they said though they (Awami League, Hasina) exploit the name of Awami League in the one-party ideology of the Baksali system there is no place for democracy. The statement further said when politics is decaying economy is crushed under the wheels of one-man system, there are signs of famine all around and, above all, the last trace of democracy is disappearing and when people desire a movement against all this--just then the threat meted out to Ittefaq, the powerful organ of peoples rightful demands is detrimental to the interest of the movement for democracy, other political parties and organisations which have condemned the Baksali threat against free press include Democratic League Muslim League (Siddiqui) Jamaat-e-Islami, Jatiyotabadi Sechha Sevak, Jatiyatabadi Krishak Dal, Khilafat Andolan, Labour Party, Ganotantrik Kormi Shibir and others.

Thus the party has once again exposed to public scrutiny, unwittingly perhaps, its undemocratic intent as well as the crudity and immaturity of its methods as a political party. This is the crisis of leadership at its worst. There are still some sane and senior leaders left in the party. The party presidium boasts names of some old vanguards. The duality of having to function as a democratic opposition as well as propagators of Baksalism has not yet formally split the party but it has bogged down the party in a chronic in-fighting and robbed it of any power to challenge the rulers.

The opposition will exist but remain weak, divided, leaderless, and dependent on the government. This was the policy of President Zia which is paying rich dividend to President Sattar. Inside and outside the parliament the ruling party is unchallenged. Inside the parliament the leader of the House Shah Azizur Rahman can say any fantastic thing and get away with it. He said the leader of the House need not enjoy confidence of the majority of the House and it is the satisfaction of the President alone that matters. No thunder of protest roared, only weak complaints were heard which soon died down. Some walkouts were there but it appeared that the opposition was deliberately skirting the crying issues of the day. They even had to swallow Shah Azizur Rahman's stated position that the Council of Ministers is not accountable to parliament. Then what is the need to form parliamentary committees to look into public affairs? Only to inflate the bills of MPs. In fact, the parliament looked so much like a stage managed show in which the role of the opposition, including their walkouts, was a well-rehearsed repertoire.

If the Awami League wants to come closer to the people and regain its power and influence and function as effective opposition it must end the lingering contradiction in its ideology and outlook, dispel the cloud of unfusion about its goal and allow its senior and sensible leadership to play its due role. But an attempt to do so may bring to the fore too many irreconcilable issues. In fact the party's present aimlessness and inertia is due to its bid to cloak or ignore the divisive issues. That way the party has been able to postpone a split but how long can it ?

NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY ENDS 2-DAY CONFERENCE

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 8 Mar 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] The two-day conference of the Bangladesh National Awami Party (Muzaffar) began on Sunday morning at Hotel Eden.

Party President Mr. Muzaffar Ahmed inaugurated the conference. He also presided over the inaugural session which was addressed by Mr. ASM Abdur Rab, General Secretary of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, Syed Altaf Hossain President of Jatiya Ekota Party Choudhury Harunur Rashid President of National Awami Party (Harun) Mr. Mohammad Farhad General Secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh Mr. Rashed Khan Manon of Bangladesh Workers Party Mr. Ali Aksad General Secretary of Bangladesh Peace Council and Dr. Akhtaruzzaman General Secretary of Bangladesh-Soviet Friendship Society

News men covering the conference left the venue in protest against remarks by NAP (M) President about journalists.

Leaders of other political parties who addressed the conference made a call for unity of the progressive forces for emancipation of the people.

Party General Secretary Fir Habibur Rahman placed his report to the conference in the council session held in the afternoon.

A cultural show followed last evening after submission of report by district committees.

The programme includes a procession today (Monday) at 10 a.m. reports from districts, discussion on general secretary's report and election of office bearers.

Mr. Muzaffar Ahmed in his presidential speech while discussing form of government referred to his remarks in the Jatiya Sangsad and alleged that his remarks were not reported in national newspapers. But the journalists reported Mr. Almas Hossain MP and the incident involving chair of Moulana Rahim He observed that unknowingly the journalists, even the patriotic ones have fallen in the hands of reactionary forces. At another stage Mr. Muzaffar Ahmed said journalists do not write the truth.

Later Mr. Ahmed said that people does not believe in the theory of "government by the people of the people and for the people." at this stage he said that journalists will now write that he is opposed to democracy.

BSE adds: In his presidential address party chief Professor Muzaffar Ahmed charged that the journalists "do not speak the truth". He alleged that "journalists twist and distort news for monetary gains".

Our staff correspondent further writes : Mr. A. S. M. Abdur Rab said that there are political parties but no movement to realise the demands. He said that the Natioynal Awami Party can evaluate the cause of absence of movement by the pro-liberation forces. He called for an united movement and hoped that the slogan would be "progressive forces unit."

Syed Altaf Hossain said that people were looking for leadership which the political parties have failed to provide. He stressed the need for self-analysis of this failure. Stressing the need of unity he posed a question why unity was forged, what are the snags. He criticised some stands by late Mou-lana Bhashani, former leader of the nited National Awami Party. At one stage Syed Altaf was interrupted by councillors and delegates.

Choudhury Harunur Rashid observed that political parties could not attain faith of the people. He held the need of the hour was unity of left progressive forces. He was also interrupted when he posed a question why NAP(M) was divided. Hailing slogan for unity he called for a programme for greater unity.

Stressing the need for a movement for food, work and democracy Mr. Rashed Khan Menon, MP said that this can only be achieved through an alternative political force through unity of progressive forces. He said that seven political parties have made some progress in this regard and hoped that NAP(M) conference would pave the way for unity.

With oblique reference to Awami League (H) and BNP Mr. Mohammad Farhad observed that on one side the past and present rulers were on the verge of division and on the other side process of unity has started. Terming this as good sign he said that democratic forces should unite for maintenance of democratic process in the country.

A total of 4342 councillors and 2135 delegates from various districts attended the national conference, it was announced.

CSO: 4220/7999

COMMUNIST PARTY OBSERVES 34TH ANNIVERSARY

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 7 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] A discussion meeting was held yesterday to observe the 34th founding anniversary of the Communist Party of Bangladesh at the organisation's central office.

Presided over by CPB chief Moni Singh the discussion meeting was participated by its General Secretary Mohammad Farhad, one of the secretaries Mujahidul Islam Selim, central committee members Ali Aksad, Shekhar Dutta and Prof. Abdul Halim.

In his presidential speech Moni Singh called upon whom he called progressive forces to come forward unitedly to end the present impasse in the politics of the country.

Mohammad Farhad gave a brief account of the prevailing economic and political situation and said that the political instability and economic crisis could not be overcome without the unity of "the progressive forces."

CSO: 4220/7997

PAPER SCORES BNP ATTITUDE TOWARD PARLIAMENT

Dacca HOLIDAY in English 7 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] Sovereignty of parliament and administering the country through it is a much neglected and abused political concept in most of the Third World countries. Ours is no exception. But in few places the whole notion is subjected to such mockery as in Bangladesh.

This reached its crescendo when Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman came out with his new theory about the system itself in his winding up speech in the recently-concluded parliament session. He said, "Parliaments in no country governs, they legislate only."

The wisdom, if any, expressed in such a statement does not deserve even a casual debate.

But then Shah Azizur Rahman was not alone in showing to the world the extent of the surrogate of the country's parliament. The way Speaker Mirza Hafiz handled the issue of the National Security Council in the house also made the worth of the parliament evident.

The Speaker did not allow any motion on the subject and deleted all references, for and against, the council made by the members during their speeches without showing the relevant rules laid down in the rules of procedure of the house favor of his action.

And when the Prime Minister said one day before his scheduled winding-up speech that he would deal with the subject of NSC in his address, the members and all others were puzzled taken aback as the Speaker allowed Shah Aziz to explain the subject.

The Prime Minister in his usual light manner during his one and a half hour verbose speech said that the NSC was only another consultative committee like those already in existence on matters of food, family planning, foreign affairs and exports. He said it was nothing new and was in vogue before under the name of the National Defense Council and the President had not violated the constitution in any manner by forming the NSC.

When some of the disenchanted members pointed out that when the Prime Minister was given a scope to speak on the subject why then the relevant parts of their speeches have been expunged, the Speaker said he would look into the matter.

MPs in the lobby later on said it was still a mystery to them why the matter which sounded so simple was handled in such a fashion in the house.

Incomparable

The Prime Minister, however, did not confine himself to the NSC only but also brought in the whole gamut of political and economic scenario in his lengthy speech. As usual this time also he referred to the House of Commons, the US Congress and the Indian Parliament while comparing the powers of his Sangsad.

What he however conveniently forgot everytime is that except "turning a man into a woman and woman into a man" those houses can make and unmake everything of their national life. Whereas the Jatiya Sangsad with Shah Azizur Rahman as leader of the house sometimes ceases even to be the "debating club only" as it has been described by some members.

At a time when the ruling BNP itself is on the verge of falling into pieces, the economy is in shambles and a serious food crisis is driving out destitutes from the villages, it was all roses according to the Prime Minister.

He told the parliament that there is no food shortage, the government warehouses are all packed-up with rice and wheat and the economy has been looking up. His government, Shah Aziz claimed, has been turning the villages into abodes of peace and prosperity through rural uplift activities.

Dreams

The fact remains that rice prices which shot up unusually has come down to some extent but is still beyond the purchasing capacity of the masses. The selling of rice from government stocks through the open market has been benefitting only city-dwellers and a small section of the elite close to the ruling party in the villages.

According to reports even import of rice from Burma has fallen into uncertainty. Bangladesh is unable to meet the conditions laid down by Burma for exporting one lakh tons of rice. President Sattar who recently visited Burma seems to have failed to convince the Burmese authorities.

The Prime Minister also took a dig at his own partymen who have been asking for "democratization" of the BNP and restoration of the "politics of balance" which the party's late chairman and President of the country Ziaur Rahman tried to maintain. He said there cannot be balance between virtue and vice and his party stood for politics of merit.

If Shah Azizur Rahman and his collaborators in the BNP stick to his approach the gap between the factions in the party is likely to further widen and scope for a rapprochement will definitely narrow down. This may jeopardize the existence of the ruling party itself not sparing Shah Aziz also.

INCIDENT INVOLVING INDIAN ENVOY REVIEWED

Dacca HOLIDAY in English 7 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Gulshan police have carried out initial investigation in the incident between the Indian High Commissioner Dubey and an officer of the National Security Intelligence in which the NSI personnel lodged an FIR with the Gulshan police saying that he was manhandled by the Indian High Commissioner on February 25.

The police while investigating the matter took eye witness accounts from the local shopkeepers. Accordingly a report of the investigation has been sent to the foreign office.

In the report it was written that Mr. Dubey got down from his car, snatched the keys of the car from the NSI officer, and assaulted him physically.

Police also interrogated Alauddin, the NSI officer, who stood by his FIR in which he complained that he was assaulted by the Indian High Commissioner.

The police source said that further action would be taken up if and when asked by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

It is learnt that in this connection the commissioner of Dacca Metropolitan Police himself visited the Gulshan police station on Friday and discussed the matter with the local police officials.

It is gathered that the keys of the car of the NSI officer which were handed over to the Foreign Ministry by the Indian High Commissioner have been returned to the NSI.

The incident between the Indian High Commissioner M. Dubey and an officer of the National Security Intelligence (NSI) has definitely sparked off a good deal of tension and diplomatic embarrassment on both sides. But much of what really happened and why is still shrouded in mystery.

According to the report published in the Ittefaq the NSI official has lodged an FIR with the Gulshan police alleging that he and his driver were manhandled by Mr. Dubey and his security personnel.

They held that the Indian High Commissioner and his men jumped on them when they parked their car in front of a market for purchasing medicine. While beating them up Mr. Dubey and his associates charged the NSI personnel with shadowing them.

The NSI officials urged the High Commissioner to calm down but he was in a rage and himself snatched the keys of the NSI car and drove away in his own car.

According to the report the High Commissioner earlier visited the office of Awami League (Hasina) and conferred with party leaders.

Mr. Dubey then drove to another embassy's club in Gulshan and from there without playing his usual game of tennis he drove towards Gulshan market. At the market he spotted the NSI officials and parking his car he and his men started assaulting them.

Denials

The Indian High Commission in a press release later denied the manhandling episode. The press release, however, said that after obstructing the car of the NSI official Mr. Dubey sent his men to the passengers of the other car to inquire about their identity. Those persons fled without disclosing their identity, the press release added.

It admitted that the keys of the other car were taken away by the Indians and the High Commissioner later sent the keys to Bangladesh Foreign Ministry.

The press release also denied Mr. Dubey's visiting the Awami League (Hasina) office. It also said that the High Commissioner and his men were not aware that the car belonged to some Intelligence officials.

Awami League (Hasina) presidium in a statement also denied that the Indian High Commissioner had gone to their office on that day. It alleged that it was a conspiracy against the party and asked the daily which printed the report to beg forgiveness for publishing misleading news about the party.

The incident immediately brought in a flurry of indignant protests from all quarters. A large number of political parties and socio-political organizations airing their reactions condemned the unbecoming attitude and action of the Indian High Commissioner. They called for declaring Mr Dubey persona non grata because his action amounted to interference in the internal politics of Bangladesh.

Awami League (H) also came under fire for its violent reaction against the daily for publishing the news. The Journalists union leaders in a statement has termed it as a threat to freedom of the press in the country.

Criticism

A number of political parties, however, criticized the government and the Foreign Ministry for the way they had been handling the affair. They are of

the opinion that such an incident occurred because of the government's subservient foreign policy.

Meanwhile a report from India said that vigilance by the Indian intelligence on the Bangladesh High Commissioner there had been intensified.

The government's handling of the issue so far has not satisfied anyone. The Indian High Commission through its press release at least had partly admitted the incident. But a full narration of it must be made public by the concerned authorities with answers to questions of what led to such an occurrence.

Many queries have naturally arisen in the public mind regarding the incident which carry seeds of threatening bilateral relationships. Besides, according to responsible sections of public opinion, the incident also relates to norms of international law and diplomatic immunity and to Bangladesh's sovereignty.

Evidently, therefore, a full and honest unravelling of the background leading up to the incident as well as the motives and reasons that led the diplomats to act as they did need to be put before the nation immediately.

CSO: 4220/7998

COMMENTATOR NOTES 'RULE OF CRIMINALITY'

Dacca HOLIDAY in English 7 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Article by Enayetullah Khan]

[Text] When politics and criminality meet half way, it inevitably turns out to be a policeman's despair.

This weird and often lethal mix of criminal terror and partisan politics has been holding an increasing sway over the political process in the country. The successive regimes of Mujib and Zia, and the parties created after their cosmetic images, are just about the worst harvestors of this ugly seedling.

This time, however, criminality has rebounded with vengeance to devour its own political mentors. If not anything else, the current spate of police actions, arms haul, arrests and spectacular revelations have at least put both the ruling BNP and Hasina Wajed's unrepentant Awami League at par with each other for their crimes against society and polity.

That such commission on the part of political parties are no less punishable than the criminal acts of actual doers is no longer a heresy to say. Criminals can be punished if due process of law is allowed to take its course. But how can political parties, which harbor and nurture criminality, be brought to book?

This question not only begs an answer but a concrete solution as well. But it seems a far cry as the responses of the political parties to these ugly revelations tend to be negative.

Criminality in politics is not the same as political violence. Political violence is a creed--a means to the end of a revolutionary social change. Violence is resistance against genocide, and rebellion against repression. Violence like Achilles' lance heals the wound that it inflicts.

As distinct from political violence, the rule of criminality in politics is the correlate of political piracy and economic banditry. It is the prodigal offspring of a ruling coterie whose edifice of power is built upon corruption, loot and plunder.

Thus the two successive regimes of Mujib and Zia incorporated criminality into their own political systems without any compunction.

In the context of Bangladesh and then East Pakistan, politics had its first taste of criminality under the benign patronage of Ayub's protege Monem Khan. But that was crass amateurism as compared to the sanctification of criminality by Mujib and the institutionalization of it by Zia.

The rule of criminality during Mujib's time was directly proportional to the extent of expropriation and fascism perpetrated by the flower-children of Mujibbad.

Crimes were condoned and criminals were abetted. The young nation was held to ransom till Sheikh Mujib made that fateful proclamation, "I' etat c'est moi"-- I am the state.

Ziaur Rahman, after having played the good samaritan for a while, could not say it because Mujib had said it first. But he thought so, nonetheless. And he made sure that the constitution was tailored after his own vision to ensure his immutability as President.

The political machinery so built by him almost instantly institutionalized criminality on a vast and wider scale. Criminals changed sides. But Aurango wouldn't budge.

The startling revelations made public in the wake of the current police actions perhaps only show the tip of the iceberg. Whether those link the ruling BNP or the Awami League in matters of abetment and patronage, the revelations so far point beyond criminality in politics. A whole new range of issues like sabotage, insurgency, gun-running and selective killings have now been laid bare before the nation.

The nation can justifiably demand a thorough catharsis of the political system that breeds criminality of such dangerous proportions. The Home Minister has so far done an admirable job. But can he sustain it?

If he cannot, then let us say, to quote a Time magazine aphorism, have gun, will go.

CSO: 4220/7998

OFFICIAL REPORTS MISAPPROPRIATION OF FERTILIZER

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 7 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] Fertilizer worth crores of Taka was misappropriated from BADC godowns during the last few years. This is one of the factors responsible for the dislocation in the distribution of fertilizer and its price increase in the open market.

An official of the corporation who wanted to remain unidentified disclosed that a number of cases were referred to the anti-corruption department, but no action has so far been taken against the culprits involved in the misappropriation and pilferage of fertilizer.

According to informed circles, a major part of the misappropriated fertilizer found its way across the border while agricultural production continued suffering due to scarcity of fertilizers in the country.

The BADC official said a carrying contractor Subal Chandra Das recently lifted fertilizer worth about Tk 40 lakh from BADC godown at Narsinghdi. It was ultimately found that the traders instead of reaching the fertilizer to its destinations, has either sold it in the open market or smuggled it out across the border. By the time the matter came to the knowledge of BADC a few months ago the culprit had vanished from the country, perhaps for good.

Three official including a senior one of the BADC were suspended in connection with the incident. But the real culprit behind the theft who was mentioned in the complaint lodged with the anti-corruption department is yet to be apprehended, said the official.

Citing another example, the official said a case of fertilizer pilferage worth Tk. 20 lakh was unearthed recently. Details of the case was communicated to the anti-corruption department but no action has been taken yet.

A large number of cases were referred to the anti-corruption set-up. No effective measure was taken either departmentally or by law enforcing authorities to check the pilferage. "Fertiliser worth crores of Taka was misappropriated, no action was taken", the official regretted.

It was alleged that certain officials in BADC, in collusion with highups in the agriculture ministry, bungled the purchase of power pumps last year in which the government had to pay more than Tk 3 crore in foreign exchange.

SEMINAR FINDS CORRUPTION IN PUBLIC SECTOR

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 6 Mar 82 p 5

[Article by Borhanuddin Ahmad]

[Text] A top-level national seminar on public enterprise/corporation accountability to Parliament was held on 27 and 28th January, 1982 in Dacca under the joint auspices of the International Labour Organisation and Management Development Centre, Bangladesh.

As befitting the occasion, the seminar was inaugurated by the Speaker of the Parliament Mirza Golam Hafiz. The Deputy Speaker Sultan Ahmed Chowdhury presided over the inaugural session which it was my good fortune to attend by the kind courtesy of the Director of the Management Development Centre M. Serajul Islam.

Both the Speaker and Deputy Speaker had emphasized that the Parliament had all the requisite powers to look into the working of public enterprises. In order to discharge its statutory obligation the Parliament had constituted several committees like the Standing Committee on Public Accounts which was presided over by a senior parliamentarian like Ataur Rahman Khan in order to make it absolutely non-partisan, the Speaker emphasized.

The Committee on Public Undertakings, presided over by Khondker Abdul Hamid now Minister in charge of Health, and Population Control, probed into the state of affairs of sixtythree public enterprises out of a total of 482 in the public sector during the period January 17 to November 30, 1981. In an interim report to the Parliament submitted on February 27, 1982, the Committee observed gross irregularities and rank mismanagement in the functioning of the public sector undertakings investigated, rampant corruption had eaten into the vitals of many an organisation, the liabilities of which exceeded their assets. Innumerable instances of naked favouritism, nepotism and abuse of power came to light. The Committee noted with regret that corrupt officials in some public bodies had been given promotion instead of being punished. No wonder that the management of such undertakings tended to look at the audit objections raised with contempt and continued to defy such objections.

Mr. Ataur Rahman Khan alleged in the House on 27.2 82 that the Committee on Public Accounts had no power to take action against corruption and financial

irregularities in government agencies, financial institutions and corporations. Giving specific instances of a nationalised bank in Abu Dhabi advancing huge sums of money without security, the notorious medical bills in the Sonali Bank, which amounted to Taka seven crore in nine months in 1980, and misappropriation running into hundreds of crore taka in the Steel Mills Corporation and the like, he warned that if persons responsible for such crimes were not brought to book, the nation would not survive.

Intervening in the general debate on the President's speech, Mr. Ataur Rahman Khan held the existing top heavy administration responsible for the present economic crisis. He said nowhere in the world the administration spent such huge sums of public money. If such expenditures were not regulated, the nation would face even graver crisis. But the crux of the matter as Mr. Ataur Rahman Khan put it, was that the ministries and government organisations did not seem to be accountable in respect of expenditure of public money.

The corporations, financial institutions and public undertakings are under the administrative control of the various ministries presided over by their respective ministers who approve their budget, annual development programme and tariff structure for the goods and services provided by them. The ministers hold office during the pleasure of the President.

Defending his position in the Parliament on 22.2.82 the Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman tersely expressed that under the present system, the Council of Ministers was responsible to the President and not to the Parliament. The prerogative of the President could not be challenged in the House. If, as the Prime Minister contended, the satisfaction of the President was all that mattered and the ministers held office during the pleasure of the President, it does not stand to reason that the corporations and other public bodies would be true to their charter and disloyal to the ministers who controlled their destiny. If governments do not fall in the House, the members forming the government will certainly look elsewhere for support and inspiration. The slogan that money was no problem was given from the top. The minions of fortune took their cue. Despite our traditional dependence upon unpredictable rains, the TCB even undertook to export hundred thousand tons of rice during the current year while government is going abegging for rice abroad.

CSO: 4220/7996

RECEPTION GIVEN FOR PRC FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 6 Mar 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] Mr. Wan Bingnan leader of the visiting three-member Chinese delegation said in Dacca on Friday that the thousand-year old bonds of friendship between Bangladesh and Chinese people shall remain as the waters of Yalu Zang Pu (Brahmaputra) emanating from Tibet and flowing down to the Bay of Bengal reports BSS.

Mr. Wang President of the Chinese People's Association for Foreign Countries was addressing a reception accorded to them by the Bangladesh-China Friendship Association at the Shilpakala Academy.

Earlier Speaker Mirza Golam Hafiz who is also President of the Friendship Association welcomed the Chinese delegation saying that our ties must grow stronger in the interest of peace in the region.

Reception

Mr. Liu Shuging Ambassador of the People's Republic of China in Bangladesh held a dinner reception in honour of Mr Wang Bingnan, leader of the visiting friendship delegation from China and the members of the team.

The dinner reception which took place at the Chinese Chancery in Dacca was attended by the Speaker, Mirza Golam Hafiz who is also the President of Bangladesh-China Friendship Association, Khondkar Abdul Hamid Minister for Health and Population Control and Mr. Oli Ahmed, State Minister for Youth Development and Mayor of Dacca, Mr. Bul Hasnat..

Also attended were Mr. Ataur Rahman Khan, MP and chief of Jativa League, Mr. Mohammad Toaha MP and chief of Samnyabadi Dal. Mr. S. A. Bari A T MP and former Deputy Prime Minister Mr Abdul Huq, former Minister Dr. F. Karim, Mr. Serajul Huq Mantu former State Minister, Prof. Jahanara Begum chief of Jatiya Jubo Mahila Sangstha, Begum Masuda Hussain, chief of the Jativa Shishu Sangstha and members of the Friendship Association.

CSO: 4220/7993

SEMINAR SCORES NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY PLAN

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 7 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The National Food Security Plan of the government came under a direct attack yesterday at a seminar where the speakers said it cannot work under the existing system of agricultural production and distribution.

Some of them suggested land reforms calling for drastic change in the production and distribution mechanism and complete removal of various drawbacks and bottlenecks that have vitiated the entire agricultural sector.

Others who were highly critical of corruption plaguing all tiers of administration dealing with agriculture and foodgrains underscored the need for taking a political decision in respect of realisation of the Food Security Plan.

Mr. A. H. Shahadatullah, Member, Planning Commission presented a paper titled "Food Security in Bangladesh at the seminar held at the Management Development Centre in Dacca under the auspices of the Society for International Development, Bangladesh Chapter (IDBC).

Chaired by Mr. M.A. Muhith, the discussion on the paper was participated, among others by Dr. Kazi Khaliquzzaman, Dr. Asaduzzaman, Dr. Hafiz, Syed Azizul Haque, Mr. Osmany, Mr. A.Z.M, Obaidullah Khan, Mr. Abul Hasnat and Mrs. Jahanara Haque.

Reading out his paper, Mr. Shahadatullah said, with emphasis on food production, the level of activities in the non-food sectors should also be raised to augment purchasing power and increase absorptive capacity of the masses.

Taking part in the discussion, Dr., Kazi Khaliquzzaman called for "drastic land reforms" citing examples of China, Thailand and Korea and underscored the need for creating employment opportunities in non farm activities.

Dr. Asaduzzaman criticised the existing procurement system saying that under it the farmers do not get fair price for their produce. He said the government should improve the system with an assurance to the growers that they would no longer be cheated by the middleman.

Syed Azizul Hoque said there should be a clear concept of food security. He said it is not even clear what amount of reserve would determine the minimum food. He also called for cultivation of non farm areas to augment agricultural productivity.

TECHNICAL MANPOWER EXPORTS TO MIDEAST SCORED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 8 Mar 82 p 8

[Text] Success in different sectors such as education, agriculture, industry, health and family planning, communication or public works, depends largely on the progress of science and technology, which in turn is dependent on the research and development activities. But the research and development programme of the country is being hindered because of the shortage of manpower in scientific and technical fields.

This was observed by Dr A K Azad Chowdhury of Pharmacy Department, Dacca University, while presenting a paper on "research for accelerating development" at a seminar organised by Bangladesh Federation of University Teachers' Associations at the Teacher-Students' Centre (TSC) of Dacca University which concluded on Thursday.

Dr Chowdhury pointed out that the country possessed only 30,000 graduate and post-graduate scientists, 7,000 engineers and 9,000 doctors, the number being much too small to leave any significant impact on the national development through their researches.

He said that a small number of experts and a large number of skilled labour force could also expedite the development of the nation; but large scale migration of scientific and technical personnel to Middle Eastern countries was seriously affecting the research and development activities of the nation.

Moreover Dr Chowdhury maintained, such was the short to age of experts that the country now had hire technical personnel and expertise at the cost of 1,000 crore during the Second Five-Year Plan period.

Referring to the Government decision to produce research scientists in the medical field, he said that step should be taken for producing "research minded doctors" for the development in the health sector.

For the development of drug research and large scale production of drug and medical research, he emphasized, the turnout of pharmacists should be at least doubled.

He said that the medical colleges, and the university departments lacked necessary equipment and instruments.

PRESS COUNCIL JUDGMENT SETS NEWSPAPER ETHICS

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 8 Mar 82 p 3

[Excerpts] Press Council delivered the judgement in the case of Major (Retd) Ali Hasan Qureshi as Editor, Dainik Desh Bangla on March 6.

The judgement acquitted the Editor of Desh Bangla on all issues but 2 in respect of which it warned him to be careful in future.

The judgement said, "everything that interests the public is not in the public interest." The papers that show readiness to make statements on inadequate evidence, and fall short of truth and fairmindedness, and indulge in suppression and distortion, call for action.

On account of circulation which is the ultimate aim of a journalistic writing, the journalists should take note that the mischief, if any, issuing from an incorrect statement of journalists in a newspaper, is likely to be far greater than a similar writing in a book or talking in a seminar. In the circumstances of the case, care in the matter of verification of statements made by their privileged sources, should be proportionate to the impact and effect the statement is likely to have on the victim. Thus the news that a man is down with flu does not require as close a verification as the news that a political leader is down with virulent syphilis does.

The judgement calls for a more careful investigation and filtration of news touching a Judge of the Supreme Court, even in his capacities other than judicial.

The Judgement said : The subject matter of the case is a report published in Dainik Desh-Bangla dated 27th July, 1981 containing some statements touching the Red Cross Society's "BARAKARTA" obviously meaning the Chairman, Mr Justice Shahabuddin, a Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

There are, in the case, four issues for examination and determination, as to if on any of them there has been any violation of journalistic ethics.

First Issue:

It has been stated in the impugned report that quickly on the wake of receipt of a proposal from Swiss Red Cross for defraying all expenses of a rural hospital, the Chairman who hails from Netrakona Sub-division wrote to the Swiss Red Cross that a hospital would be established in village Teligati within Netrokona and got this proposal passed by the Managing Board of Bangladesh Red Cross. The implication is that the Chairman, while proposing Teligati for the hospital, was moved by local patriotism.

As against this allegation the complainant who is the Secretary General of Bangladesh Red Cross Society states in his petition of complaint filed before this Council that as far back as in November, 1978 a proposal was mooted for establishment of a rural hospital in Teligati and that in July, 1979 an agreement was signed and that the proposal was accepted by the Managing Board.

The statement made in the impugned report that the Chairman, all by himself, favoured the site at Teligati in preference to other possible sites and got it passed by the Managing Board cannot be said to be incorrect in view of the testimony of the Vice-President Mr. Mayejuddin. In the circumstances, Dosh-bangla has not committed any breach of journalistic ethics in publishing it. Publication of factual position, even if bitter, is never an offence.

Second Issue

The impugned report says that the cost of construction was to be met by the public and accordingly a sum of Taka one lakh and twenty five thousand was collected through subscription. This money was misappropriated by a protege of the Chairman. Although Magistrate Habibul Huq on enquiry found the allegation of misappropriation true, yet because the man involved was the own man of the Chairman, so he did not do anything against him.

The complainant (Secretary, Red Cross Society) states in his complaint that the Swiss Red Cross agreed to pay Taka sixteen thousand per month to the Teligati hospital when established. As a matter of fact, there was an agreement between Bangladesh Red Cross and Netrakona Red Cross Unit to the effect that the Netrakona Red Cross Unit will construct the hospital building by its own fund collected through local subscription. In accordance with that contract, the Chairman of Teligati Unit who is the Subdivisional officer of Netrakona constituted a committee called Construction Committee and appointed Professor Azizur Rahman as its Secretary.

The veiled imputation of connivance by the Chairman suggestively imbedded in the impugned report is, to say the least, unfortunate to a degree. The press while reporting or publishing a news item or a comment must exercise highest quantum of restraint, particularly when the matter touches the integrity of a personality so high as that of a Chairman Red Cross Society of a country.

We find on this issue that the paper has broken journalistic ethics.

Third Issue

It has been stated in the report that the Chairman has established a costly clinic in his own village Pemoi at a cost of Taka fifteen thousand and three hundred c.i, sheets. The allegation is one of local patriotism and violation of the principles of the Red Cross.

The complainant states that Pemoi clinic was established by a resolution of the Managing Board of the Red Cross and it is violative of no principle.

On this point, the Vice-President Mr. Mayejuddin says that there was a decision that no further expansion of the centres would be done and that no request was sent to B.D.R C.S for establishment of a centre at Pemoi. Secretary General informs that 3 requests were made and Pemoi and Char Nilakshya were accepted, in modification of the earlier decision.

It is obvious that establishment of the kinds of this kind of clinics was stopped by a resolution but at the time of approval of this clinic, these resolution was modified.

It appears that for the establishment of the clinic the Chairman's personal initiative must have been responsible to a large extent, but the approval of the Managing Board having been duly obtained on the matter, there remains nothing illegal in it. Deshbangla's reports in this situation, can be said to have transgressed no limits of journalistic ethics.

Fourth Issue

It has been stated in the report in Deshbangla that the Chairman sought permission to visit foreign countries to late President Zia who sternly refused it but after his death he (the Chairman) visited Japan, North Korea and China at a cost of Taka one lakh and five hundred. It is alleged that this costly visit was not for the Society but for himself.

The complainant states that a good will mission was decided to be sent by the Managing Board and the Chairman followed the decision. The President of Bangladesh did not disapprove the tour, rather fixed the month of June for the purpose, and subsequently the permission was given. The tour was for society's interest.

The Vice-President Mr. Mayejuddin states as admitted by him in his [word illegible] to newsmen that the Managing board approved the visit of two persons to Korea, and accordingly tickets were purchased but as President Zia forbade, the visit was stayed.

In view of what has been stated by the Vice President Mr. Mayejuddin it can not be said that the report in the newspaper is transgressive of the limits of journalistic ethics on this issue. Equally in the face of the Managing Board's approval and President Sattar's ultimate permission, it cannot be said that Chairman's visit of foreign country is in any way tainted.

Chairman of Bangladesh Red Cross Society is a Judge of the Appellate Division of Bangladesh Supreme Court. Judge of Supreme Court are held in high esteem in all quarters and that popular esteem is based on their universally acknowledged integrity, both moral and financial. Criticism against the Judicial function of the Judge calls for action for contempt and this stern measure is necessary for maintenance of Judicial independence.

But the activities of the Chairman as the Chief Executive of the Bangladesh Red Cross Society is not above criticism. The Chairman is liable for action in respect of violation of law or rules, if any.

We have no intentions to question the wisdom of the President of Bangladesh to appoint a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court to the office of the Chief Executive of the Red Cross; but it is our sincere expectation from a Judge of the Supreme Court that because of his exalted position as judge he, while holding the office of the Chief Executive of an institution, should act with special care so that his actions do not even appear irregular or give scope for any misunderstanding.

We demand of the press a more careful investigation and filtration of news touching a Judge of the Supreme Court, even in his capacities other than Judicial, Rule 2 and 3 of the code of conduct provide.

"Everything that interests the public is not in the public interest. The papers that show readiness to make statements on inadequate evidence, and fall short of truth and fairmindedness and indulge in suppression and distortion, call for action.

On account of circulation which is the ultimate aim of a journalistic writing, the journalists should take note that the mischief, if any, issuing from an incorrect statement of journalists in a news paper, likely to be far greater than a similar writing in a book or talking in a seminar. In the circumstances of the case, care in the matter of verification of statements made by their privileged sources, should be proportionate to the impact and effect the statement is likely to have on the victim. Thus the news that a man is down with flu does not require as close a verification as the news that a political leader is down with virulent syphilis does".

We ask Deshbangla in particular and the press of Bangladesh in general to live and act up to the above rules of the code of conduct.

We acquit the Editor on all the issues but 2 in respect of which we warn him to be careful in future.

CSO: 4220/7001

AGREEMENT FOR RICE PURCHASE FROM BURMA SIGNED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 11 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] Bangladesh and Burma in Dacca on Wednesday morning signed a general agreement under which Bangladesh would purchase one lakh tons of Burmese rice reports BSS.

Under the agreement a contract has also been signed for immediate shipment of 15,000 tons of rice. The shipment would be completed in March and April and the payment would be made 50 per cent in cash and rest 50 per cent in commodity.

The agreement emerged after two days of talks between the visiting Burmese trade delegation led by the Minister for Foreign Trade U Khin Maung Gyi and the Bangladesh side led by the State Minister for Commerce Syed Mohibul Hasan. Mr. Gyi and Mr. Mohibul Hasan signed the agreement on behalf of their respective governments.

The Minister for Food Relief and Rehabilitation Mr. Abdul Halim Chowdhury the Secretary Ministry of Commerce Mr. Matiur Rahman Chairman of TCB Kazi Azhar Ali and the Burmese Ambassador in Dacca Mr. Thein Wing were present on the occasion.

After the signing the Burmese delegation left for home.

In a brief speech after the signing of the agreement, the State Minister for Commerce Syed Mohibul Hasan expressed satisfaction at the conclusion of the agreement and thanked the Burmese Minister and members of his delegation for their excellent and warm cooperation. He said that Burma was one of the closest neighbours of Bangladesh and both the countries maintain special relations of friendly cooperation.

In his reply the Burmese Minister Mr. Gyi also expressed satisfaction at the successful completion of his mission to Bangladesh. He hoped that both the sides would proceed smoothly for the implementation of the agreement signed on Wednesday.

CSO: 4220/7003

BANK REPORTS FOREIGN EXCHANGE REMITTANCES UP

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 12 Mar 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] The foreign exchange remittance of the Bangladeshi nationals working abroad during 1981 stood at Taka 559.45 crore compared to Taka 384.37 crore in 1980 representing an increase of 31.29 per cent.

This was disclosed to BSS on Thursday by Mr A.M.A.H. Siddiqui, Director General, Manpower Planning Centre, quoting the report of Bangladesh Bank.

He said that a total of 57,968 Bangladeshi nationals secured employment abroad during 1981 representing an increase of 82.47 per cent over the previous year.

Saudi Arabia and Iraq, he said, were the two countries which provided maximum employment to the Bangladeshi workers in 1981. Saudi Arabia accounted for 24 per cent and Iraq 23.58 per cent of the total overseas employment during the period under review, he added.

Mr. Siddiqui further said that Oman and U.A.E. recruited 13.09 and 11.50 per cent of the total Bangladesh in 1981 followed by Kuwait with 9.80 per cent, Libya 7.47 per cent, Qatar 4.07 per cent, Bahrain 2.50 per cent and Singapore with two per cent. Jordan, Syria and Nigeria also received a small number of Bangladeshis during the year. No employment was secured in Algeria, Malaysia and Iran during the year, he added.

In reply to a question the Director General of the Manpower Planning Centre said that employment secured by the individuals in 1981 constituted 49.28 per cent while the share of the private and public sectors in securing employment stood at 39.83 per cent and 10.89 per cent respectively.

Mr. Siddiqui said that of the total overseas employment, 21.81 persons secured employment on foreign vessels which means that employment opportunities for seamen had reduced by 25.36 per cent in 1981.

Giving a break up of the ratio of the overseas employment, Mr. Siddiqui noted that highest increase was in Iraq where employment of Bangladeshis rose to 13.153 in 1981 from 1927 in 1980. Increase in Singapore, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Oman was 61.88 per cent, 55.88 per cent, 54.66 per cent and 53.07 per cent respectively, he added.

Replying to a question, he said that the 10 countries in order of high remittance were Saudi Arabia, U.K., U.S.A, Kuwait Iraq, Qatar, Oman, West Germany and Bahrain.

JUDGMENT AGAINST FORMER JUTE MINISTER SET ASIDE

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 12 Mar 82 p 12

[Text] Former Minister Mr. Habibullah Khan on Thursday succeeded in his appeals for setting aside judgment of the High Court Division making adverse comments on him and asking him to pay costs and compensation of Tk. 10,000 in connection with a Writ Petition disposed of in November, 1980.

The Writ Petition filed in 1978 by Shah Azharuddin Ahmed, Administrative Officer of the Directorate of News, Radio Bangladesh sought a declaration that the order of his compulsory retirement from service was illegal and malafide.

A Writ bench headed by Mr. Justice Syed Mohammad Husain allowed the Writ Petition and ordered Mr. Azharuddin's reinstatement upon findings that the retirement resulted from a malafide action at the behest of the then Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mr. Habibullah Khan.

The judgment referred to a clash between the writ petitioner and Mr. Anisuzzaman Choudhury, a brother-in-law of the Minister over alleged official irregularities in the News Directorate and observed that the Minister acted malafide in causing the retirement in order to satisfy his brother-in-law.

As a sequel to such observations a Suo Moto Rule was issued directing the Minister to show cause why he should not pay Tk. 10,000 to Shah Azharuddin in cash.

Mr. Habibullah Khan contested the Rule while he was a Minister for Jute and submitted that the allegation of malafide was baseless, the action against Shah Azharuddin was taken by appropriate authority of the Government in due process of law owing to his dereliction in duty and that the findings against him behind his back when he was not made a party in the Writ Petition was untenable. The order for cost and compensation was therefore illegal. The court rejected his defence and maintained its order after hearing the Rule.

Meanwhile, he also took an appeal before the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court contending that the Suo Moto Rule was issued without jurisdiction. This was followed by his appeal for expunging the observations of malafide action by him. After the disposal of the Suo Moto Rule he filed yet another appeal challenging the legality of the order for costs and compensation of Tk. 10,000.

The Appellate Division gave unanimous verdicts allowing all his three appeals after considering the contentions raised by him that the High Court Division acted illegally and in excess of its jurisdiction in passing remarks adversely affecting his fair name and directing him to pay costs and compensation.

It was a full court comprising all the five judges of the Appellate Division including the Chief Justice Mr. Justice Kamaluddin Hossain, Mr. Justice K.F. Munnim, Mr. Justice Ruhul Islam, Mr. Justice B.H. Chowdhury and Mr. Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed.

Mr. Anisuzzaman Chowdhury also took an appeal challenging the validity of observations that the allegations of irregularities against him were enquired into and established. He submitted that the questions of irregularities were still in the domain of domestic inquiry and the High Court Division acted illegally by holding that the same were established. His appeal was also allowed.

The Appellate Division, however, dismissed by a majority verdict an appeal filed by the Government for setting aside the High Court Division's order reinstating Shah Azharuddin Ahmed in his service while disposing of it after hearing all the five appeals together.

Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed appeared with Mr. Mahmudul Islam and Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmad for Mr. Habibullah Khan.

Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed appeared also for Mr. Anisuzzaman Chowdhury.

Attorney General Mr. K.A. Bakr appeared with Mr. Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan, Deputy Attorney General and Mr. B. Hussain Assistant Attorney General for the Government.

Mr. Nurul Huq and Mr. Khairul Huq appeared for Shah Azharuddin Ahmed.

CSO: 4220/7002

BRIEFS

PRC MILITARY DELEGATION--The Chinese Military Goodwill Delegation earlier scheduled to visit Bangladesh in February is now expected to arrive in Dacca today (Saturday) says an ISPR Press release. The Delegation will be led by Liu Hua Quian, Deputy General Chief of Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. During their stay in Bangladesh the delegation will pay a courtesy call on President Justice Abdus Sattar. They will also call on the Chief of the Army Staff, the Chief of the Naval Staff, the Chief of the Air Staff and the Defence Secretary. The delegation is scheduled to lay floral wreaths at "Shikha Anirban" and visit the Bangladesh Ordnance Factory and different Army, Navy and Air Force installations and establishments in Bangladesh. [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 6 Mar 82 p 1]

FREEDOM FIGHTERS' CONFERENCE--A meeting of the National Executive Council of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad was held on Thursday with Acting Chairman of the Central Command Council Zakir Khan Choudhury in the chair, reports BSS. The meeting was also attended by Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad, Chief of, Army Staff and Chief Adviser of the Sangsad, according to a Press release on Friday. It was decided at the meeting that the national conference of the Muktiyoddha Sangsad will be held in December this year according to the schedule announced earlier. The National Executive Council at its meeting also approved the membership of the following persons to the Central Command Council who had been co-opted earlier: Mr. Arshad Ali Mangal, Md. Abu Hanif Mr. Rezaul Karim Chundru, Mr. Mujib and Mr. A. S. M. Ilyus. [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 6 Mar 82 p 1]

MINISTERS ORDERED TO REPORT--Dacca, 28 Mar (AFP)--Five former ministers have been ordered to report to the martial law authorities within 72 hours or face action under martial law regulations, it was announced here. The announcement, made last night, did not say why the ministers were wanted. Martial law authorities have so far detained a deputy prime minister, two senior ministers, two junior ministers and 233 others--believed to be mostly officials and businessmen--on charges of corruption, misuse of power and anti-state activities. The five ministers ordered to report were former Deputy Prime Minister Jamaluddin Ahmed, Works and Urban Development Minister Abul Hasnat, Civil Aviation Minister K.M. Obaidur Rahman, Shipping Minister Captain (retired) Nurul Huq and Establishment Minister Majedul Huq. [Excerpt] [BK280555 Hong Kong AFP in English 0544 GMT 28 Mar 82]

BURMA

BRIEFS

DEPUTY PREMIER DISCUSSES TRADE--The visiting Australian deputy prime minister and minister for trade and resources, J.D. Anthony, and his delegation held talks on trade and economic cooperation with the Burmese side headed by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Planning and Finance Thura U Tun Tin at the Ministry of Planning and Finance in the ministerial offices at 0930 today. The Burmese side was represented by Minister for Agriculture and Forests U Ye Gaung; Minister for Industry I U Tint Swe; Construction Minister U Hla Tun; Minister for Mines U Than Tin; and responsible officials. Later, the Australian deputy prime minister and delegation visited the Burma Gems Corporation on Kaba-aye road and studied lapidary work there. They also visited the livestock breeding farms in Pyinmabin where they were shown around by managing director of the Livestock Development and Marketing Corporation U Pyi Soe and other responsible officials. Earlier in the morning, the Australian deputy prime minister and his party visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and also laid wreaths at the tomb of national leader Gen Aung San at the martyrs mausoleum. In the evening, the visiting deputy prime minister held a return banquet at the club house of the Australian Embassy. [Text] [BK241449 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 24 Mar 82]

CSO: 4211/15

MITTERAND VISIT TO FURTHER INDO-FRENCH RELATIONS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 19 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] President Francois Mitterand is likely to visit India sometime this year, the External Affairs Ministry spokesman informed newsmen on Thursday.

Currently, India has been attaching special importance to its relations with France and a special advisor of the French President is now in the Capital discussing, inter-alia, means to further deepen Indo-French bilateral ties.

The advisor, Mr Jacques Attali, who arrived in New Delhi on Thursday, held an hour-long discussion with Dr P C Alexander the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, on international economic relations and Indo-French bilateral ties.

Mr Attali is due to call on Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee on Friday besides holding talks with Mr G Parthasarathy, who was Chairman of the recently concluded New Delhi Conventions among developing countries on South-South cooperation and North-South issues.

Surveying the present world economic scene, Mr Attali told Dr Alexander that in the back-drop of the latest global economic crises which is not showing any signs of early solution, the 'selfishness' displayed by the developed countries would only spell ruin for all concerned.

It was his considered view that emphasis should be laid on new technologies and new markets besides recognition of the fact that help to developing countries would be, in effect, a very clever move on the part of the developed world to further its own self-interest.

On bilateral Indo-French ties he felt that relations between India and France can be intensified and raised to 20 times the present level in the areas of intellectual, economic and political cooperation.

Recently Mr Regis Debrey, another advisor to the French President, was in India on a 'study tour' for acquainting himself with the developments in this region. The visit of Mr Attali is being considered significant in New Delhi as he is an expert on France's economic relations with other countries while face has been set by both India and France to raise their economic ties to higher levels.

Dr Alexander hosted a dinner in honour of Dr Attali on Thursday. Foreign Secretary R D Sathe is hosting a luncheon for him on Friday.

INDIA, SOUTH KOREA AGREE TO EXPAND TRADE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 19 Mar 82 p 7

[Text] The Joint Business Council of India and South Korea which met here on Wednesday reaffirmed its decision to expand the two-way trade to the level of one billion dollars in the next three or four years from the present level of \$300 million, reports UNI.

The council identified some areas as having a potential for considerable expansion of the two-way trade. These included engineering and agricultural goods.

The Indian delegation was led by Dr Charat Ram and the Korean side by Mr Lee Kyung-Hoon. Dr Charat Ram was elected chairman and Mr Lee, co-chairman of the meeting.

It was suggested at the meeting that representative commercial offices and trade promotion centres should be established in both countries. The Korean side agreed to send economic missions particularly from electronics industry to visit India in the near future.

Dr Charat Ram said South Korea had advanced technology and India could import the same at a cheaper cost.

In order to expand the two-way trade, the council recommended increase in the number of items subject to concessional tariffs, early conclusion of double taxation avoidance agreement, long range contracts for supplies of iron ore to the second steel mill planned in Korea, joint international biddings and exploring possible areas for joint ventures.

The council identified fisheries, construction, irrigation and power engineering and transport and communications as areas suitable for joint ventures in third countries.

On transfer of technology, consumer electronics, iron and steel products, chemicals and ship-building were considered as of immediate interest to both countries.

The next meeting of the council will be held in Korea sometime in February-March 1983.

WORLD PEACE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN SPEAKS AT DELHI MEET

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 19 Mar 82 p 10

[Text] The looming threats of nuclear catastrophe, the imperatives of peace for development, and not the least, the dangerous games that the US and its allies play occupied academicians and publicists at a workshop organised by the All India Peace and Solidarity Organisation and Parliamentarians for Peace in the Capital on Thursday.

The minutes of the workshop are to be condensed in the form of a document outlining the pre-requisites to world peace and submitted to the second UN Special Session on Disarmament in June this year.

Lamenting that the conclusions reached at the first UN session on Disarmament had found no echo in subsequent global trends president of the World Peace Council Ramesh Chandra praised the Soviet Union for consistently taking initiative to lay the foundations of a lasting world peace, and blamed the US administration for not only responding to these proposals but propounding an increasingly hawkish attitude to the Soviet Union.

Mr Chandra deplored that a NATO session had been timed to coincide with the UN session to let US mount pressure on allies for more ambitious armament.

Though anti-war movement was gaining support in West European countries, this had not diminished the dangers of war as a consequence to US foreign policy, he observed.

'The utilisation of the resources for development instead of armament is still long-term thinking,' Mr Chandra noted and said 'the immediate question is one of survival of mankind.'

CPI-M, MP Satya Sadhan Chakravarty in his thought provoking address noted that the concepts of collective security and balance of power had become obsolete in face of the scope of modern warfare.

'It is now the balance of terror', Mr Chakravarty said and described the concept of a limited nuclear war as a means of deterrence to be a product of insane thinking for a bid to mislead the world.

He noted with satisfaction the decisions reached at the Vienna conference in January which had totally rejected the doctrine of limited nuclear wars.

Peace Loving Forces

Former Foreign Secretary T N Kaul called for unity of peace loving forces within the country and all over the world and the building of an effective forum which could rebuff the attempts of the US to destabilise peace and security.

Among the suggestions offered by Mr Kaul were the imposition of a total ban on nuclear weapon tests, destruction of all existing ones within the next five years and end to their further production.

CPI MP Gita Mukherjee proposed to mobilise public opinion by educating citizens on the dangers of war.

Underlining the popular notion that 'Big Powers' were obstructing the declaration of Indian Ocean as a 'zone of peace' and other peace moves, Mrs Mukherjee cautioned that the public had to be educated to identify the real culprits behind escalating 'tensions in the region' and the world.

Prominent scientist Prof Rahman observed that in attempts to extend areas of influence and silence the Third World cry against imperialism, the US had now adopted the 'tactics of reprisal' against these countries. These tactics, he pointed out, extended from chemical warfare in countries like Kampuchea and Vietnam to prohibiting American universities from allowing foreign scientists access to sophisticated technology.

Within the US itself, Prof Rahman noted, 60 per cent of the scientific community was involved in military research; and that the funnelling of funds into the production of ever more sophisticated weaponry had caused more productive and constructive research to languish.

Other prominent speakers at the workshop included Prof Rasheeduddin Khan, MP, former UGC Chairman Satish Chandra, General Secretary of the AICC-S Bedabrata Barua and former Indian Ambassador to the USSR I K Gujral.

CSO: 4220/7992

IRAN AGREES TO DOUBLE IMPORTS FROM INDIA

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 19 Mar 82 p 3

[Text] Dubai, March 18 (UNI)--Iran has agreed to "at least" double its imports from India by next year while the two countries have also decided to go in for wide ranging collaboration in the production of tractors, irrigation pumps and setting up of joint ventures in oil, metals and mines and rail roads.

Stating this, secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs for economic affairs, Romesh Bhandari, told UNI here yesterday that the two countries would start exchanging business delegations from next month to boost cooperation. Later Indian Commerce Minister would visit Teheran. Mr Bhandari had led a three-member official delegation to Iran this week "for the enlargement of economic exchange."

Mr Bhandari said that Iranian leaders themselves had spoken of the "special relationship of Iran with India" and the corresponding need in this perspective to increase trade and economic activity.

At present, Iran imports a variety of items from India worth about 100 million dollars while, for India, it is one of the two main traditional crude suppliers.

Mr Bhandari said an Iranian team would visit Delhi next month to identify new items that can be purchased from India while India would send delegation of experts to pursue setting up of joint ventures in tractors and agricultural equipment, oil mines and minerals, and management of Iran's already existing steel mills at Ahwaz and Isfahan.

The Indian teams would include both public and private sector business leaders as well as officials of the public sector Metallurgical and Engineering Consultant Limited.

Mr Bhandari said Iran would also be buying more jeeps from India but did not disclose the figure. An Indian manufacturer, Mahindra and Mahindra has already exported a large number of jeeps to Teheran.

CSO: 4220/7992

PPP LEADER PRESENTS PARTY PLATFORM

BK161014 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0951 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Jakarta, 16 March (ANTARA)--The Muslim Political Party, PPP, in the next national development period, intends to implement four programs in the fields of religion, education and culture, economics, politics and security, according to its Chairman Dr J Naro.

Dr Naro outlined these programs Monday night in his campaign speech on television.

"These four programs are inter-related," said the PPP MP.

He said the program on religion had the main aim of up-building high morality, because the success of development would be determined by the human factor besides other supporting means.

Closely related with the program on religion was the program on education and culture, Naro said. Education is the means for developing the character and morals of the nation and in addition through education the nation will prepare the younger generation with knowledge and skills.

Development in the economic field which aimed at raising the welfare of the people would be realized only if morality was given a significant role, according to Naro.

The functional relation between economic growth and the more equitable distribution of welfare was not to be found only in the system but also in the morality of development, he said.

The same was also true with development in the field of politics and defence, he added.

Naro explained general election was the right and the responsibility of every citizen, especially those who already had the right to vote [sentence as received]. This was more so, he continued, because the election would be conducted on the four principles of directness, generality, freedom and secrecy. The PPP, he said, was convinced that the government would not tolerate anyone who attempted to minimize the meaning of the election through actions that violate the law. For example, by practicing intimidation because intimidation would only raise doubts on the election.

CSO: 4220/449

STUDENT FRONT REFUSES TO JOIN GOLKAR

BK311437 Hong Kong AFP in English 0345 GMT 31 Mar 82

[Text] Jakarta, 31 Mar (AFP)--The Indonesian students and Youth Action Front (KAPPI) which spearheaded President Suharto's rise to power 16 years ago, has rejected an invitation to join the ruling Golkar (functional groups) party, it was reported today.

With some eight million supporters and sympathizers throughout Indonesia, Kappi firmly turned down a Golkar call to merge, the JAKARTA DAILY MERDEKA (freedom) reported.

It quoted Kappi General Chairman Juwaeli Irayad, as saying Kappi would remain independent.

"Kappi's objective is to be loyal to its struggle for the interest of the whole Indonesian people and not of a group," he said.

He said Kappi had been invited to hold a meeting with Golkar at the holiday resort of Puncak, some 77 km (48 miles) south of here to discuss the possibility of a merger.

Meanwhile, armed troops guarded the University of Indonesia (UI) campus today following a demonstration yesterday in which students broke windows in protest over the sacking of student leader Peter Sumaryoto.

Mr Sumaryoto and 32 other students were dismissed on charges of instigating anti-government meetings last week at Rawamangun campus where they plastered slogans attacking President Suharto and certain cabinet ministers.

The authorities in Yogyakarta, Central Java, banned campaign activities for 2 days following a clash between Golkar and the Muslim United Development Party (PPP) in which a PPP youth was killed. A planned rally by the Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI) had to be cancelled yesterday due to the ban.

President Suharto today held talks with Vice President Adam Malik on the current political situation which has been marked by clashes and other violent incidents between supporters of Golkar and the PPP.

Mr Malik, who has just returned from a campaign tour of North Sumatra and West Java, said the situation was under control. The general election is to be held on 4 May.

The Muslim daily newspaper PELITA (torch) has been reprimanded by the government for carrying a news report on the Golkar-PPP clash in Yogyakarta at the weekend, ANTARA news agency reported today.

The publication of the report was considered a violation of an understanding between the government and the Indonesian press in which the latter should refrain from carrying reports on the election campaign that could heat up the situation, ANTARA said.

The reprimand came from the director general of press affairs, Sukarno, Dr Sukarno told a gathering of student graduates in Yogyakarta yesterday that the Indonesian press should be able to differentiate between news that could heat up the situation and that which could not.

"The Indonesian mass media should not turn into a foreign press in this country," he was quoted as saying.

CSO: 4220/449

PNG'S OKUK ATTACKS JAKARTA'S TRANSMIGRATION POLICY

BK011005 Hong Kong AFP in English 0942 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] Port Moresby, 1 Apr (AFP)--Papua New Guinea's deputy prime minister and leader of the national party, Iambakey Okuk, today launched a scathing attack on Indonesia's transmigration policy, under which Indonesians from the crowded island of Java are being given land in other provinces, notably the Melanesian province of Irian Jaya.

"We were told that we have nothing to fear from the movement of up to one million people from Java to Irian Jaya, a stone's throw from Papua New Guinea," he told students.

"Those assurances are not worth a cup of water. They sound horribly like those assurances that were given to the people of Afghanistan and Poland."

Mr Okuk said a national party government--a general election is due in June--would "arouse the conscience of the world to the plight of our fellow Melanesians just across the border."

He said the reason why supporters of the Irian Jaya freedom movements were turning to communist countries for support was because no-one else cared about their plight.

"It is no wonder that certain communist countries are stepping up their activities in this country. Those of us who believe in democracy have adopted the worst possible double standards. We complain about events in New Caledonia--yet we maintain a deafening silence about events in Irian Jaya."

Mr Okuk also criticised the "changing pattern of overseas workers in this country," by which he means the increasing presence of Asian and Filipino expatriates.

"Now I am called a racist. We are lowering our standards because we are lowering the standards of foreign workers coming into this country. They are not here for a year or two. They are here for good--or until Australia will accept them."

"I am not a racist. I know what I am saying is best for our country and our people," said Mr Okuk.

CSO: 4220/449

'PETITION 50' BOOK SEIZED; STUDENT LEADER DETAINED

BK011015 Hong Kong AFP in English 0833 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] Jakarta, 1 Apr (AFP)--More than half the copies of a book titled "Petition 50," banned last year by the provincial police commander of Solo (Central Java), have been seized within the past 6 months, it was reported here today.

Some 3,905 of a total 7,500 copies of the book relating to the opposition group "Petition 50" were no longer in circulation, the DAILY MERDEKA said.

According to the attorney general's office, the book was banned because it "reflected efforts to revive the impact of the banned petition 50"--a statement critical of the Suharto regime issued in mid-1980 and signed by 50 opponents, including former top government officials and retired army generals.

Petrus Baxang Sismoyo, who compiled the book, told the newspaper that the contents did not justify the ban since a similar publication (petition 50), by the semi-official Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), was now on sale and was even advertised in newspapers.

"We have taken out all critical clippings," Mr Sismoyo said.

However, the book was said by other sources to have contained more critical statements than the CSIS book.

The working group of the petition 50 issued a new petition on 24 March as a reply to Vice-President Adam Malik's allegations that the group did not respect the constitution and the people's rights.

The letter, signed by former Jakarta Governor Ali Sadikin, stated: "Such accusations are too heavy to be made without clear proof."

Meanwhile, it was reported from the East Javanese town of Surabaya that a number of student activists had been detained on 24 March and later released.

Still in detention was the former deputy chairman of the student council in Jakarta, Ibrahim Zakir. The reasons for their detention were not immediately known.

CSO: 4220/449

INDONESIA

MOKHTAR RETURNS FROM BANGKOK

BK270827 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0720 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Jakarta, 27 Mar (ANTARA)--Indonesia has proposed that efforts to secure supply of foodstuffs for the Asia-Pacific region should be organized at sub-regional level, in a pattern similar to the ASEAN food security reserves.

The Philippines meanwhile proposed instead the establishment of some sort of a food bank involving all the 33 member countries of ESCAP (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific), Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja said Friday [26 March] on his return from the 38th annual meeting of ESCAP in Bangkok.

In the meeting, Prof Mokhtar said, Indonesia proposed that the food supply program should be decentralized to subregional level in order to make it more manageable.

Indonesia, he said, believed such an organization (at subregional level) would be more efficient due to the great differences in the characteristics of the ESCAP member countries in terms of trade pattern, logistics realities, and methods of food transportation and distribution.

Which of the two concepts would be adopted by the ESCAP session was still unknown to the foreign minister because he had to leave for Jakarta while the session was still to be continued in Bangkok. The session was scheduled to last 12 days from last Monday.

In his speech delivered before the annual ESCAP meeting, the Indonesian foreign minister also urged tin producers and consumers countries to sign the sixth international tin agreement (ITA VI) as soon as possible.

Prof Mokhtar said he considered it opportune to make the urging because the main tin producing countries were present in the meeting together with the European tin consuming countries who came as observers.

The problem of the (ITA VI) had also been discussed by Indonesian Minister of Mines and Energy Prof Subroto during his recent visit to Europe. Prof Mokhtar also took up the subject in his talks with his counterparts when he visited Great Britain, Denmark and the Netherlands.

CSO: 4220/449

BRIEFS

ANTIGOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES WARNINGS--The home affairs minister, Amir Makhmud, has hinted the existence of activities using pamphlets to slander the government. Some of the pamphlets have been found in West Java. The minister pointed out that this kind of method is definitely unsound and in view of this, we must ensure that a peaceful condition is secured until the polling day on 4 May. The home affairs minister reminded all parties concerned to further heighten their vigilance so that incidents, such as the one that took place at the Banteng Square in Jakarta recently, could be prevented. [Text] [BK311029 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 30 Mar 82]

TERRITORIAL DEFENSE--Minister of Defense and Security-Commander of the Armed Forces Gen Mohammad Yusuf said that the defense line under the 1st Sumatera and West Kalimantan territorial defense command is an important area where there is full of very vital projects. This was stated by the minister when he inaugurated the deployment of the Indonesian Air Force fighter planes at the Polonia Air Base in Medan, North Sumatera. He said that in the context of further strengthening the national resilience, particularly efforts in strengthening the national defense and security, the government continued to improve the necessary infrastructure in line with the developments around the country and in the world in general. Besides the deployment of fighter planes in this defense line, the government is also making efforts to upgrade and improve air fields in Pekanbaru and the Natuna Island in Riau to enable all types of aircraft to launch their operations in the best possible way, Gen Mohammad Yusuf concluded. [Text] [BK311411 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 31 Mar 82]

ELECTION CAMPAIGNS--The home affairs minister, Amir Makhmud, said in Jakarta today that if there are parties trying to instigate people not to take part in the general elections, this means that those parties want to push the people into a world of sufferings. This was stated by the minister in his keynote address at the 9th all-Indonesia students regiment's working meeting. Explaining on attempts to disrupt the election campaigns lately, the minister predicted that the attempt will continue to be carried out by parties opposed to the Pancasila. [Text] [BK311407 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 31 Mar 82]

DEPLOYMENT OF COMBAT UNITS--In the context of his tour to various regions, the minister of defense and security-commander of the armed forces, Gen Mohammad Yusuf, today successively inaugurated the deployment of the Indonesian Air Force

combat units consisting of A-4 Skyhawk fighter planes in Medan and Ujungpandang. In his inauguration speeches, the minister said that the deployment of the armed forces combat units throughout the country will be continued in view of the demand resulting from the achievements made in the national development. He stressed that the strengthening of the armed forces units is not intended for territorial or regional expansion by Indonesia, but is exclusively for the maintenance of the national stability, defense and security. During his current tour, the minister was accompanied by his wife, the chiefs of staff of the Indonesian Air Force and Navy along with other defense and security department officials. [Text] [BK311557 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 31 Mar 82]

CSO: 4213/504

COMMENTARY CITES U.S. PRC MILITARY RELATIONSHIP

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 6 Jan 82 pp 2, 4

["Speaking and Listening' Column]

[Text] Recently a US weekly US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT spoke of the US relation with Asia as the implementation of the Reagan doctrine, which wants to extinguish the "Vietnam of old", a time of retreat and hesitation. It has the objective of creating "America's obligation." This doctrine expects to make Asia a military ally to oppose the Soviet with the forces of the American imperialists, Japan, and the PRC. They think that they will make all Asian nations establish military ties with Beijing. This doctrine calculates that it must compel Japan to have the largest military role in Asia.

President Reagan and Prime Minister Suzuki of Japan agree that the relationship of their two nations is an "obligation." The heart of the matter is to bring Japan into the military strategy of America. At the same time America wants Japan to sign a U.S.-Japan security treaty and, moving from there, will put pressure on Japan in other areas.

So after the Reagan-Suzuki meeting, however inadequate, there was a long communique for the Tokyo representatives to inform them that if Japan increases its military forces, Japanese officials must act according to the orders of its ally, that is, make Japan become a US nuclear test base. Japan is also preparing military forces, planning to use them in action abroad. The U.S. wants Japanese naval and air forces to patrol the northwest Pacific, up to a distance of 1,700 knots. The estimate of all the experts is that Japan must enlarge its naval and air force by at least 1.5 times. At the same time Washington tried very hard to establish a military relationship with Beijing, which was almost an enemy and then was called in an instant "friend" because Beijing wants to borrow capital and to get strategic weapons from the US. The US decided to send weapons to Beijing. A group of military representatives was sent to the US to bring a list of weapons Beijing wanted.

Washington certainly desired a military relationship between Japan and the PRC while retaining sole command in Asia. But they could not overcome the objections of Tokyo.

The PRC sought in every way to have the imperialists hasten to compete in the arms race and create tension in various regions of the world. This was evident from the imperialist capitals' waiting for Reagan's decision on the building up of the neutron weapons industry. For the same reason as America, Mao's successors are likely to follow the two China theory of the past, by establishing lines of communication with Taiwan, on the basis of PL 240 passed by the American Congress. Beijing is willing to agree that weapons and war materiel made in the US should go to the Taiwan government.

Relying on the sympathetic attitude of Washington the Beijing leaders followed their ambition to be a great power. The 6th party Congress of the Chinese Communist Party showed that Beijing still held the old line of expansionism and militarism. But the economy was backward and unprogressive. In the past 2-3 years the plans had form but were implemented with haste. They were plans without value (dead before birth). The REN MIN HINAO newspaper itself acknowledged that the PRC was threatened with a "capital and economic crisis," but until that time the Beijing plan for the great leap forward was calling for massive capital. The report of the International Institute on Weapons Research and Strategy in London, No 70-71, indicated that equipping every battalion of the PRC with modern US weapons would cost from 664 million to one billion US dollars. In the PRC there are 400 regiments.

Beijing does not have enough money for the military because in the plan to create a modern force Beijing depended on the US and its ally Japan. The US has encouraged the PRC to create a modern army. Then the arms industry of the US would profit from the sale of weapons to the PRC.

The US did not conceal the fact that in shipping military equipment to Beijing openly, there would be a political exchange. Although the US wanted the PRC to maintain its old attitude of opposition to the USSR and socialist circles, their calculations were mistaken. Beijing became the slave of an alien group, as shown by the fact that there was a US electronic station to intercept Soviet military communications. This station was located in the northwest part of the PRC.

Washington's calculations were far off again. Washington wanted to push the PRC against the USSR. At the same time Beijing urged America against the Soviet Union and wanted the role of the "third conspirator."

The lesson is that the action of expansionist Beijing was ineffective in the race. Military aid to the PRC made it expansionist in the east and south. It can guarantee that it will not allow the PRC to take American weapons to turn against America itself. But who will receive this guarantee that those weapons will not induce the PRC to share the power with America in Asia?

Referring to the map that the PRC marked "vanished land," all these nations or parts of them are close to the PRC. It was not because Beijing did anything wrong (in Asia) since World War II.

Whoever understands how Beijing induced them to have an "appearance of American soldiers" in Asia again, they encouraged the establishment of a military base

and wanted American warships stationed in the Indian Ocean. They encouraged doubling the military strategic role of the US in Asia. This was good for Mao's successors because they felt it was a fine opportunity for forwarding their ambitious plans, depending on the power of America. Various actions of the US and the PRC recently are aimed at seizing power in the nations of Indochina and Afghanistan, in the nations of ASEAN, AND India. The special operations units of the PRC have close contact with the CIA and their branches in all the nations of Asia.

The enemies of peace have used every method to incite ASEAN against Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea. America, Japan, and the PRC would be glad to have ASEAN assume military obligations. This is evident from the recent visit to the ASEAN nations by the PRC prime minister and also by American diplomats.

The MERDEKA newspaper of Malaysia noted that the political interference of President Reagan supported by Japan and the PRC politicians created tension in southeast Asia.

The US and the PRC have since 1980 cooperated closely in opposing the coup in Afghanistan. Beijing authorized aircraft carrying weapons to the group opposing the Afghan revolution to fly over Chinese territory. Japan also has joined the action of the enemy of Afghanistan.

There is cooperation between the US imperialist forces and those of the PRC while the US has increased its warships and military force in the Indian Ocean. The PRC started disturbances along the Indian border, putting pressure on India. A recent broadcast stated that Chinese soldiers had installed target practice guns in Tibet and aimed them at Indian towns.

There was repeated "The reduction of weapons is a lie and war is something that cannot be eliminated," a saying of Mao. This pleases America.

Certainly if the US forces do not have time to overtake the army of the socialist world, increasing the competitive forces of the PRC, there is no way to exceed the socialist camp. But if they want to build military relations in Asia, they threaten the peace and security of every nation, including the US.

9615

CSO: 4206/28

EDITORIAL CITES INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS, SHORTCOMINGS

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 4 Feb 82 p 1

[Editorial: We Should Encourage Industrial Production]

[Text] Industrial and handicraft production is an important branch in building and expanding the national economy. This is an immediate problem that has to be solved correctly according to the policy, "increase the establishment and control of factories according to the rules of enterprise that were officially announced previously, set production policy, reorganize production, plan production and business, and prepare raw materials equipment in advance, so that we can have continuous production and make the most use of the machinery we already have."

Industrial production has been carried on determinedly over the past years in response to this policy. First of all, the continuation of the survey to prepare for some mining operations was speeded up, and some construction and repair work has been done, such as repairing the Nam Ngeum hydroelectric dam's generators. The electricity network was expanded and Phon Tiou Tin mining was improved and expanded. At the same time, we encouraged factories to produce diligently. As a result, the total value of industrial productivity increased by 13.18 percent as compared to 1980, despite the lack of raw materials and many different kinds of spare parts. Many factories exceeded the plans for the 1981 plan, e.g., coal, beer, soft drinks, tobacco, zinc, bricks, etc. Handicrafts have progressed and expanded once again, for example, in Vientiane Capital, Luang Prabang, and Champassak. Different handicraft occupations such as weaving, embroidery, and basket weaving are beginning to revive and expand and are doing quite well. Some of these are valuable goods for export.

Besides these strong points, we still have many weak points in this area. For example, we have not yet been able to control, encourage, and expand creativity in productivity, making workers the owners of factories. This is why a number of factories have not yet met their production levels or have not had any realistic internal organization, control, and production system. From now on, the immediate task is to let all know that the rights of collective mastery should be encouraged widely among the workers in order to maintain and expand productivity using the industrial base we already have, to aim towards serving agricultural expansion, communications and transportation, and household goods production. At the same time, we must have a policy and procedure to revive and expand handicrafts. We should expand survey work in order to get ready for future construction of strong points of a strategic nature.

Carrying out the task of increasing industrial and handicraft production is closely related to communications and transportation, trade, distribution, and the gradual improvement in the standard of living for cadres, engineers, and factory workers. We should quickly act to stimulate the workers' enthusiasm in production by encouraging them to fulfill the production plan set by each factory quarterly and annually, and even to exceed the goal set by higher echelons.

9884

CSO: 4206/30

LOUANG NAMTHA BORDER TROOPS CONFRONT PRC PSYWAR EFFORTS

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 6 Feb 82 p 2

[Article by Red Sappanwood Flower: A Strong Border]

[Excerpts] It has been three months since we went to visit the Panthong border, Sing District of Louang Namtha Province, but everything remains in our memory. We can never forget. For example, we are very proud of the border troops who are performing their duty in protecting our fatherland that we love and cherish.

Our enemies try to use a great deal of psychological warfare on these border troops. For example, they send the troops gifts with very persuasive letters. Sometimes they threaten by force, and also in the form of agents for spying on any movements on our border. They use thousands of ways to make you so infatuated with them that you yield to them. However, they have miscalculated. Our border troops are not only not deceived by their propaganda but are also on the alert and are ready to fight anytime and unfailingly against all their military and political activities. The reason for this is to protect our beloved and cherished land forever.

Even though the border troops I met are from different districts, different races, and speak different languages, they all have the same ideology. This enables them to defeat the expansionist Beijing's military and political movements each time.

The Panthong border is the farthest forward outpost for our country's northern region. The border troops are always on duty guarding day and night. They are aware and on alert for attacks at anytime. They have revolutionary fervor, and all said as if with one voice that they would protect our land and would follow the slogan, "wherever it is hard, youth will go, wherever the trouble is they will be there, and wherever the country needs them they will volunteer wholeheartedly."

9884

CSO: 4206/30

SECURITY THREAT SEEN IN RAPID PRICE HIKES

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 6, 7 Jan 82 p 2

['Conversation with Editor' Column]

[6 Jan 82 p 2]

[Excerpt] [Statement] I am writing this letter out of indignation to get from you a new viewpoint. This is the reason. For the past two or three days I have seen the prices of almost all kinds of goods doubled. For example, a pack of cigarettes that was 50 kip is now 80 or 90 kip (foreign cigarettes). I want to know if this action is intended to disrupt or destroy the economy or to destroy security. Please look into this. At the same time I am suspicious about the shops (privately owned). They have left over stock (not sold promptly). Why do they raise prices? If they raise them, it might be because they have a big investment. But what they sold for 5 kip yesterday, today is 15 kip. Why is this?

The best of luck to you. Relieve my uncertainty. Thanks.

"Nation Owner" 1 January 1982

[Response] You use the name of "nation owner." When I read your letter I decided to answer because on this subject I feel strongly, as you might say, "strongly enough" like a hot-tempered person. In fact, it is not a subject that concerns us enough. If our attitude was firm, why would this happen? Because we are an independent nation, our kip currency is independent to be used legally within the nation. It is not equated to the dollar or the baht. Please understand this. We use foreign currency to buy necessities, which we cannot produce, and we must use the normal exchange. But in regard to problems within the nation, we do not have enough foreign exchange for expenditures for daily needs. This matter we will discuss. It is the question of the rise in prices in shops or private stores. In fact, there is no anxiety if all the people are alert. They must be aware because there are changes in one moment. I do not know the past history or the reason. I ask questions myself and for all, why is this and how did it start. But I give my opinion as follows. This must have a hidden reason in the background. I do not want to speak of the plan of the imperialist enemy, but the form and action reveal it in the way that it creates internal disruption, as you indicated.

[7 Jan 82 p 2]

[Text] Do not look for the extreme left. If you see the outline, many people have the same views, "the enemy creates disruption in financial affairs, commerce (psychological warfare)." The origin is with the private merchants. This group intentionally creates this situation, but we don't know their real purpose. There might be many reasons. However, the confusion in the minds of the people is "creating disruption directly." There are three ways of doing this now.

1. Create a currency market (black market), lower the price of the kip among themselves
2. Hoard goods
3. Raise the prices maliciously

This is very harmful to the daily livelihood. It disrupts the national economy directly. You ask who thinks in this way. The outline above shows it clearly in these people or you will have seen it.

How can this confusion be corrected? We think in these ways.

1. Suppress completely the black market in currency. Many people probably know the locations.
2. Find the ones causing the destruction; punish them.
3. Establish regulations for the store owners to follow under a new trade principle.
4. Control prices on all goods, a fixed price.
5. Search out the hoarders who raise prices and create shortages.

Above all, everyone must be responsible along with the officials concerning the investigation and urgent reporting to the officials of the nation, to suppress it completely....because those who create the disruption may appear in any form, depending on who bears ill will to our nation. All will be aliens or Lao, depending on the situation. If there are no strict regulations, I think the difficulties will affect us all and will hinder national progress, too.

This is a discussion from one viewpoint only. We did not raise subjects that were not applicable, to cause confusion at this time, so that the nation and people may be secure, settled, determined in earning their living and developing the nation.

If anyone makes mistakes, he should ask pardon of the officials concerned. But where there is good, he will perform his duties fully. We will be glad to help.

9615
CSO: 4206/28

CROSS BORDER SUBVERSIVES SAID TO BE ACTIVE IN VIENTIANE AREA

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 7 Jan 82 p 2

[Article: "Sithan Neua in 1981"]

[Excerpts] Sithan Neua Canton is one of four cantons under Sikhot Tabong District, Vientiane City, the southernmost part of the district, bordering on Chanthaboury District, lying along the Mekhong River at kilometer post... On the north it touches Nong Douang Canton, on the south the Mekhong River, the Lao-Thai border, on the east Vat Chan Canton, Chanthaboury District, and on the west Sikhai Canton.

Sithan Neua consists of eight villages, considered a central district of the capital, with a population of 9,482 and 1,862 households. It is an important strategic area, the site of an airfield with many central factories.

The trouble in the canton, since it is on the Thai border, is that the enemy have determined to destroy the security of the people, waging psychological warfare by propaganda to induce the people to lose faith and oppose our revolution. But whenever the top echelon of government, especially the canton government, keeps in close touch with conditions, the government exercises its power and levies appropriate and prompt punishment. This maintains the safety of the people and their normal livelihood at all times.

The conditions of government machinery in the past were such that there were difficulties and confusion about responsibility for work and the people were not yet strong. The leadership cadre was small. Everyone of the cadre was determined to build a foundation for the progress of his village. There was effort in making a living, with firm faith striving for development as they worked in every area in the past year.

Security

Although Sithan Neua Canton, as was stated, is on the Thai border, every level of government, the guerrilla units, and every person, are all determined to protect security for the peaceful lives of the people. The guerrilla units move to defend security at all times. Besides this the district defense forces were eager to help give protection in every canton so conditions remain normal. This is the basic work of Sithan Neua Canton, Sikhot Tabong District, Vientiane City, which the people took upon themselves in the past year (1981). They have confirmed the victory of the first year, when the people held the power of governing Sithan Neua Canton, to implement the 1st State Five Year Plan.

GOODS ALLOCATIONS FOR CADRES CUT BACK, ELECTRICITY PROBLEMS NOTED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 11, 12 Jan 82 p 2

['Conversations with the Editor' Column]

[11 Jan 82 p 2]

[Excerpt] [Statement] To the editor: I am interested in several topics. Please explain..

1. Cooperative products distributed to cadre formerly numbered more than 10. These past 3-4 months they have been reduced to two or three items such as cloth, sugar, and milk. Why is this?

Now it is very cold. The state has not supplied blankets for sale to the cadre. They are too expensive in the morning market.

2. The problem of electricity you have discussed, but the present question is that electricity used in Lao houses is not less than before, so why has the Lao Electricity Authority collected unequal amounts of money? For example, in one household they used the same amount of electricity as before but the bills were 1,000 kip, 300, 400 kip, 600 kip and in October 1981 they collected one kip. Is the meter broken or is the householder concealing his use of electricity? Private houses and car repair shops use a lot of electricity for refrigerators, fans, electric stoves, welding. Now the cadre bills are going from 1,000 kip a month to one kip. Is this right? Are the cadre currying favor or masking their actions to seek a private income?

3. Retail stores (bakery)

Are these confectionery and bakery stores authorized to sell independently? I don't think it is suitable, right or safe.

Vientiane 20 December 1981

Mr Observer

Cadre Group 6 Ban Thong Sang Nang
No 5/61, Phon Tong Canton,
Chanthaboury District

[Response] Comrade, who uses the name Observer, the number of comrades has grown. If I answer in detail, I must take many days but nevertheless, I will discuss what I know. If there is still a problem, write again. I will reply to the best of my ability.

[12 Jan 82 p 2]

[Excerpts] 1. You understand correctly. In the past there were many items not really necessities included, such as fish sauce and noodles. Because these, if imported, exhausted our foreign exchange, it is now better to have the remaining necessities such as soap powder, milk, sugar, tooth paste only. The rest must be bought at the free market and state markets, if available.

Blankets are the same. Formerly you could buy them but now they are gone. Ordering them is the job of commerce/trade/business. Why they don't order them, I don't know. Or is there no need? We see what happened in the past, but send them to the mountainous and rural districts.

2. On electricity there is no change. You pay a little or a lot, depending on the consumer and the meter. If the reading is unusual, he informs the officials of the electricity department to repair the unit or put in a new one. Collecting an excessive amount depends on the consumer. Some persons are economical and do not pay much. For instance, at my house some times I don't pay 30 kip. We use irons, fans, electric stove, et cetera. Within a household they may not pay 500 kip. We asked a large family, which uses a lot and they pay 300-400 kip only. This is the cost for the public. How is it if you say they pay 1,000 kip for one month?

Shops and factories have a cheaper rate than households (lighting). When one kip a month is charged, there may be occasions on which the electricity cadre did not read the meter. That is the minimum payment. The problem is that if the meter is not read, there must not be a charge. If any one month is excessive, he is paying for two months.

The houses of cadre, government, workers have the right to use electricity according to the courtesy rate which is applied to village industry, but other houses that are not listed under state jurisdiction will pay according to the public rate. Our electricity is the cheapest in the world.

3. I have spoken before about trade. People have the right to sell freely except for certain items that are under official control, which are not permitted to be sold outside this official control. But trade must be allocated to locations in the capital depending on the police and the food allocation and maintenance department of the city, as the persons to designate the sites. If the officials note any unsuitable place, they ought to advise them to move to a safe spot in orderly fashion.

9615

CSO: 4206/28

BRIEFS

SUBSIDY ON ESSENTIAL GOODS INCREASED--The government subsidy on essential items this year will exceed the 1 billion ringgit mark. This year's allocation is 106 million ringgit more than that set aside last year. Official subsidy on the nation's essential items is aimed at lessening the burdens of the cost of living on the people, especially the poor. A government spokesman points out the subsidies are provided in view of the government's concern that the man in the street should not be burdened by the price hike of essential items. The largest allocation of 750 million ringgit is for petroleum products, especially diesel and kerosene. The next biggest subsidy totalling 220 million ringgit is for paddy. Nineteen million ringgit has been set aside for the textbook scheme which will mainly benefit poor parents. The government has also subsidized electricity rates to enable the national electricity board to supply cheaper power to rural areas. And several major projects, which should boost the economy of Kelantan state are being undertaken. One of the first major companies to set up a factory in Kelantan will be a Swiss firm. It will produce telecommunications equipment. Several areas totaling 40,000 hectares have been opened up for the planting of oil palm and rubber. A paper factory is also being planned for the state. [Text] [BK261519 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 26 Mar 82]

FALSE RELIGIOUS TEACHING--The Malaysian Government has arrested nine persons, who, according to the law, were believed to have spread false religious views and planned to topple the government by unconstitutional means. A police statement issued in Kuala Lumpur yesterday said that the nine persons were detained without trial under the internal security act. The arrested persons have spread false religious teachings known as (Kripto) since the beginning of 1978. It was reported that this (Kripto) movement has about 100 followers of the Malay race. [Text] [BK281349 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 28 Mar 82]

MAHATHIR EXPOSES ACTIVITIES--Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed today exposed the activities of certain groups in the country making efforts to weaken the faith of Malays in Islam. Such activities, he said, had been, were and would be continuing and if Muslims were not careful they might be influenced and thus lose their faith. The prime minister cited the activities of the group known as (Kripto), whose leaders were arrested recently as an example of the efforts being made to weaken the Islamic faith in the country. He then gave an assurance that, as head of a responsible government, he will not let such activities continue. [Text] [BK280849 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 28 Mar 82]

STABILITY OF MULTINATIONALS ASSURED--Multinational corporations have been reassured of Malaysia's political stability for their investment now and in the future. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed gave this reassurance during a meeting with 60 senior executives from 45 multinational firms from the United States, Japan, Australia and Europe in Kuala Lumpur today. The 2-hour session focussed on business opportunities available and the government policy on foreign investment. Senior officials from the Ministry of Trade and Industry, PETRONAS [National Petroleum Board] and MIDA [Malaysian Industrial Development Authority] took part in the discussions. The prime minister told newsmen after the meeting that these executives want to know more on Malaysia's investment climate. He said many questions had been asked, and he had explained to them the new economic policy, the industrial coordination act and investment opportunities. The chairman of the session, Mr (Ivy Thomson), who is also the president of the Goodyear International Limited, described the meeting as extremely useful and frank. He remarked that the government participation in promoting investment had been truly positive in that it had generated enough opportunities for the healthy investment climate. Tomorrow, the executives will meet senior officials from the ministries of primary industries, finance and the foreign investment committee. [Text] [BK291344 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 29 Mar 82]

CSO: 4220/449

GOVERNMENT ADVISED TO INITIATE DIALOGUE

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 13 Mar 82 p 4

[Text]

A fortnight has passed since the massive round up of persons described as criminals, anti-social elements and suspects began. How many have been arrested so far all over the country is not known. How far correct are non-official estimates of 10,000 to 15,000 arrests? Figures for a few regions, however, manage to come out. And judging by the fact that 1,065 have been arrested in Karachi alone, and the figure for Hyderabad Division should be far more than that, the overall figure should be staggeringly large.

It has been alleged that the arrests were done on the basis of routine black lists of the police, who are merely showing their "karguzari," that no challans had been presented in respect of anyone arrested through such sweeping police action. And equally pertinent is the objection to the retention of the obsolete 1861 Police Act promulgated by the British to keep the natives down through torture and a variety of other primitive tactics.

Many of these persons are to be tried in Martial Law Courts. In Karachi alone eight special Summary Martial Law Courts have been set up to try them and give "deterrent punishment"; as a Deputy Martial Law Administrator

says. Does that mean that the trial will be as brusque as the arrests were presumptory? Will only the guilty be detained; and will they alone be punished through this process. How is this going to be ensured, the country would like to know.

The people have been clamouring for action against criminals. They demanded tough action and sustained preventive measures. Even the Majlis-e-Shoora members called for it en masse. But the people are not assured that all the big criminals have been rounded up, and they will all be punished and made to pay for their crimes. The arrests have not brought a sense of relief or generated a feeling of security in the country. Instead, they have given rise to scores of questions, varied doubts and a positive disquiet.

It cannot be that the police did not know about the criminals or anti-social elements in their localities earlier. If they can arrest 10,000 or more persons within a fortnight, and about 25 of them could be proclaimed offenders and about ten per cent absconders, how did they not know about them before? If they did not know, how could they become so readily knowledgeable within a short time? If, as has been claimed that in certain

quarters the police have largely made use of their stock black lists and detained them, in addition to rounding up persons on vague suspicion, will they all not be let off soon?

The people have small faith in the efficacy of the current action also because the police themselves have been involved in a variety of cases. Some

incidents have shown the complicity of the police or inexcusable laxity. Even in the area of transport it is said there would have been fewer accidents on the highways or within the cities if some of the transport vehicles were not directly or indirectly owned by the police. And corruption in the traffic police is proverbial.

Cases of hardened criminals escaping from jails and from police custody, particularly when they are being taken to courts, have been on the increase.

Massive round-up of criminals and anti-social elements had taken place before, too, without real beneficial results thereafter. Hence real crime fighting can be done only by an honest, efficient and conscientious police. That demands an extensive weeding out of criminal, immoral and weak elements from the police. It needs a thorough-going cleansing of not only the police ranks but also of all law-enforcing agencies. Without such a police force, and similarly reformed law-enforcing and intelligence agencies, any war against crime cannot have lasting results. If instead police officers involved in crimes or found corrupt are merely transferred from one police station

to another, or from one area to another, they will not become any better, or the police force any cleaner, or more efficient.

In these days of soaring cost of living the policemen should be better paid and better equipped. They need better transport facilities. They cannot chase criminals in cars, on foot or on horses. Hence, while the better among the police officers and men are sent to refresher courses every few years, they should have the kind of equipment which puts the criminals at a disadvantage.

Let it be candidly admitted that in a society marked for its high cost of living and high living style, in sharp contrast to its endemic poverty, the policemen too will be tempted to take to crime or succumb to corruption to keep up a certain living style. In a country where even the state media, like TV and radio, are used to promote the consumption of luxuries and needless wastes, the policemen could not be blamed if they are enamored by such a sales pitch.

It is no less true that if the authorities misuse the police, as they have been traditionally doing in Pakistan, the police will misuse its authority for making illegal gains or settling their scores.

Clearly, the malady is deeper than is evident. So the remedy has to be more than dramatic or demonstrative. The root causes of the increasing crime and corruption should be probed and analysed and the right remedies applied on a lasting basis. Anything less will make more headlines and produce small results.

PURGE IN POLICE RANKS URGED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 12 Mar 82 p 12

[Text]

The political parties are closing their ranks. They are working on the unification of their goals and identification of common aims. This is a very essential step in a country with too many parties, each claiming to represent a large number of people. It is a tribute to public opinion, or a simple concession to it, that even parties not anxious to have early elections or restoration of the 1973 Constitution feel compelled to fall in line with other parties and unify their demands.

It is, indeed, a healthy sign that there is no scramble for joining the proposed interim government. Even the Jamiatul Ulama-e-Islam, which proposed it earlier, is not keen on joining it. The anxiety of Pir Pagaro to join it in full strength, or have majority share holding in the Cabinet, is understandable but not too significant. In fact, the interim government has become a non-issue, and other parties are readily willing to support those who enter such a government as long as they are firmly committed to holding elections according to an agreed schedule, and are taking positive steps in that direction.

Of course, it is easier to agree on the goals than on the strategy for achieving them. While parties like the Jamaat-e-Islami and Pagaro League want a return to democratic norms and elective politics, they are not in favour of agitation or a popular movement. And the government, on its part, does not appear to be anxious to concede the demands of political parties even if they represent the unanimous voice of the leaders who realise the gravity of the situation.

So the real problem within the political alliance that is now sought would arise when the strategy for implementing the agreed decisions is being finalised and later when some of the parties seek to establish direct mass contact or mass involvement in it. Already there is a move for a mass signature campaign in support of the demand for ending Martial Law, and restoring democracy on the basis of the unanimously adopted Constitution of 1973. Stage two of the political movement can take on the shape of a confrontation unless the government takes the initiative of coming out to meet the legitimate demands of the leaders.

Already there are signs of increasing violence in the country. Conflicts within the universities are on the increase, and the radicalisation of the students is taking place at a rapid pace. The teachers are agitating as they are not just able to make both ends meet even in very modest manner, and that is only one of their many major worries. Political terrorism is also on the increase in the country, and assassination of prominent figures like Arbab Sikander Khalil and Chaudhri Zahoor Elahi are portents to the shape of things to come unless an early political settlement is reached and constitutional normalcy brought back to the country. The people should be able to register their dissent or protest through normal means instead of having to look for arms or bombs that sometimes kill their wielders themselves. If some of the terrorism is the result of external machinations and are engineered by the enemies of Pakistan it is all the more reason for a closing of the ranks within the country, and a great national coming together on the basis of democratic equality and collective consensus.

Mian Tufail Muhammad, the Jammat chief says, his party

hopes to return to the democratic process through negotiations. But President Ziaul Haq recently said that he is opposed to the politics of agitation, subversion and negotiations. If the Government would not agree to negotiate with the parties it has to announce unilaterally how it intends to take the country back to democracy, and within what time frame. Of course, it would take too long to not wait for the search for a truly Islamic constitution and an Islamic system of elections to be completed, or to be devised now, for the whole thing to be debated among the Ulama and constitutional experts later and finally drafted into a formal constitution and a set of electoral laws. In fact, if such a system is desirable or has to be devised, let the task be entrusted to an elected Assembly instead of being performed by the Martial Law Authorities.

The Government must avoid a conflict between it and the people. This can be done only if the Government readily and earnestly takes the initiative for a political settlement acceptable to the country. All other courses are perilous, and all other arrangements will be short lived.

BALUCHISTAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS EXAMINED

London ARABIA: THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW Jan 82 p 47

[Text]

After years of insurgency and unrest in Baluchistan, the Pakistan Government of General Zia ul-Haq has launched a massive aid programme for the underdeveloped province. Because Baluchistan borders Afghanistan, Iran and the northern shores of the Gulf, stability there is considered important not only by Pakistan, but also by Gulf countries and the West.

The Islamabad government announced towards the end of 1981 that it had allocated 1.22bn rupees (\$124m) for projects in the province in addition to the provincial annual development programme of 500m rupees. The money is coming from more than half a dozen sources, including the Arab world.

The Asian Development Bank is to finance three modern jetties for the fishing ports of Omara, Pasni and Jiwhani near the approach to the Gulf where the fish catch is expected to rise from 65,000 tonnes to 85,000 tonnes. The Japanese government is to provide \$1m for the construction of roads in the province, including a main tarmac road linking Sibi with Dera Ghazi Khan, which would cut right through the most important tribal areas.

The Kuwait Fund for Economic Development has sanctioned \$3.7m for four electrification and irrigation projects and Unicef has agreed to finance the provision of drinking water for 640 villages in Baluchistan. Following Lord Carrington's visit the EEC announced it was funding another irrigation project and the UK Overseas Development Administration has pledged a £5m grant.

Most recently the government has announced a huge plan to widen the vital Panjther canal, which irrigates the central Pal plateau of Baluchistan. The estimated cost is 6.6bn rupees and the Pakistanis have approached Japan, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait for help.

Government funds are largely being used to build up an effective infrastructure in the province, which has been badly neglected over the years. Vast tracts of desert and mountainous terrain remain without roads, electricity or clean water. Many tribes eke out an existence as nomads, shepherding sheep and goats, although there is some land cultivation.

The land is arid but experts speak of massive underground reservoirs of water which if tapped could turn the province into a major grain producer.

There are also vast mineral resources which will need massive investment in effective infrastructure before the government can get at them. Already, there is a large coal mining industry around Quetta, a barytes industry near Khuzdar, copper, coal and bauxite in Chagai and chromite in Muslimbagh.

The main interest in Baluchistan's development, however, centres around the potential for a big oil strike. At present six oil companies have concessions in the province and a little oil is being extracted along the border with Punjab, although so far there have been no major finds.

Hitherto Baluchistan has been in the anomalous position of providing gas from the Sui gasfields to meet 65 per cent of Pakistan's total energy needs, while having no gas available in Quetta, the provincial capital. That will soon be rectified when gas from the Pirkoh gasfields in the Bugti tribal area is pumped to Quetta by a special 400km pipeline.

The first phase of this project will be completed in two years, by which time Pirkoh will be supplying 72m cu ft of gas a day. This project is costing 704m rupees, and the Asian Development Bank is providing the foreign exchange component of 409m rupees.

FALSE REPORTS ON CRIME CRITICIZED

Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 12 Mar 82 p 3

[Text] Not of small surprise was a report published in the press recently that facts and figures concerning crime in the country supplied by the provincial police departments to the Ministry of Interior have been found "bogus." The reports have been passed on to the Bureau of Police Research and Development, Islamabad, to "locate the sources responsible for providing false information." Firstly, we are in a state of wonder as to how the Federal Ministry could smell out the bogus nature of the statistics, unless they themselves have been keeping tag of the progress of crime over the heads of the provincial governments which are primarily responsible for law and order in their own regions, particularly in the area of petty larcenies which naturally go a long way to swell the figures. Secondly, we are sceptical as to how the Bureau of Police Research and Development, whose very existence is generally little known much less its functions,

Whatever they may be, the public has never been able to feel the impact of the results of investigations carried out by this most high-sounding investigative agency, that is, investigative in the sense of methods and modes of controlling police work, as the name signifies. Taking away our mind off the awe and wonder, let us consider the question of the falsehood of the figures. Only some time ago we mentioned in these very columns that the crime statistics are bound to be deflated as many of the complaints of the public are not recorded at all, as they should be, on one pretext or the other by the police and are disposed of without their appearing on the registers. We had till now believed that any complaint by a member of the public had first to be put on a police station book specially for this purpose as the First Information Report before investigations are started. If there is no public complainant, as in the case of general law and order, it is a police officer who was supposed to put down in black and white his own experience or notice of a breach of law. Any action taken in connection with the complaint recorded has to be entered in the personal diary of the officer earmarked to look into it. This diary is then supposed to be checked up by his superiors. We do not know how such diaries are now maintained when a lot of time is wasted in "enquiries" which have no *raison d'etre*. That is, however, a different matter.

The non-entry of an FIR when it has been received and done according to the whims of the police officers gives place to many irregularities. Whatever action is taken under such circumstances is unofficial while the fullest power in the hands of the police is used. Officers generally frighten those who insist that the report should be recorded with different threats: one of them is that once an FIR has been taken down, the case must go to court with all its implications of appearances, postponement of dates and so on, even if the parties involved in trouble wish to have the matter settled out of courts. If, for example, a person beats another and the victim goes to the Police, the complaint is not taken in the manner it is made. The police forthwith takes the stand that since two persons or two parties have come to blows, it is a matter for disturbing peace and both of them are presumed guilty and hence to be put under arrest and sent to court within 24 hours, to be remanded to custody for further investigations. So naturally, few go to the police, or if they do, they have the matter hushed up by paying off to the guardians of the law. Since no complaint has been recorded, there is no case anywhere. Innumerable such petty crimes do not come on record, and the eventual statistics is obviously cock-eyed. This provides a great deal of encouragement to the goondas and gangsters who go about terrorizing people, even indulging in beatings which are never reported, officially speaking.

The total picture of crime as shown by the figures compiled from records bears no relation to facts. Thus it is possible for the highest officials of the land to tell the people that crime is on the decline or is very little in comparison to other countries. The state of affairs, is, however, otherwise and nobody has any way to check up on it. We are not aware of the functioning of the Bureau of Police Research and Development and whether it has any means and methods of discovering the realities by going direct to the public without police official's knowledge. For, without such a method, they may never be able to find out the correct picture. The fact is that since the early days of Pak'istan the law and order situation has been continuously deteriorating throughout the country while the annual reports compiled by the officials do not show it. True, a great deal of it is due to the advantage taken by political parties in power who used criminal law to aid them in establishing their own henchmen in positions of power, thus setting up a tradition of an extent of lawlessness which often hit themselves on the rebound when their own party went out of Government. At the same time it allowed non-political gangsters to set up shop, manipulating things in their own way. We would be happy to know what the Bureau of Police Research and Development has to say in this connection, as also how they are going to tackle the new problem passed on to them by the Ministry of Interior. It would be most enlightening for the public who pay them through their taxes to know this.

CSO: 4220/446

BRIEFS

ORDER ON WALI RESCINDED--Peshawar, March 16--The NWFP Government has rescinded its order putting Mr Abdul Wali Khan and Begum Wali Khan under house arrest on Sunday last, it was officially stated here today.--AFP [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 17 Mar 82 p 1]

CANADIAN HELP FOR PAK POWER PROJECT--The Canadian Ambassador in Pakistan Mr W.T. Warden yesterday discussed the possibilities of Canadian collaboration in the proposed power generation project based on Lakhra coalfield in District Dadu with Mr A.A. Malik, Chairman of the Pakistan Mineral Development Corporation here. They also discussed the technical improvement of the Shariagh Coal Washing Plant (District Sibi, already installed with the assistance of Canadian International Development Agency. The possibility of Canadian technical assistance in the utilisation of (word indistinct) iron ore (District Miawali) was reviewed at the meeting according to a PMDC Press release.--APP [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 17 Mar 82 p 8]

IJT STUDENTS BRING OUT PROCESSION--A procession was brought out yesterday by the students of Islami Jamiat-i-Tulaba from Dow Medical College to press for acceptance of their demands. The reports said that the procession was taken out after a meeting was held inside the premises of the DMC. However, when the procession reached M.A. Jinnah Road, a police party tried to break it up by resorting to a mild lathi-charge. The students, who became enraged, stoned at the police party raising slogans against them. Later the processionists dispersed. [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 17 Mar 82 p 8]

TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES--Sri Lanka's trade and shipping minister, Lalith Athulathmudali, arrived in Islamabad this morning on a 5-day official visit to Pakistan. He was received at the airport by Federal Finance and Trade Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan and the officials of the Ministry of Trade. The Sri Lankan minister will discuss bilateral trade relations with Ghulam Ishaq Khan tomorrow. He will also meet Federal Communication Minister Mohyuddin Baluch. The Sri Lankan minister will also call on President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq and will visit Lahore and Karachi. [Text] [BK290216 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 28 Mar 82]

TAX TREATY WITH NETHERLANDS--Pakistan and the Netherlands have signed a treaty on avoidance of double taxation between the two countries in the Hague. [Text] [BK281339 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 26 Mar 82 BK]

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

FORTHCOMING BARANGAY ELECTIONS--The forthcoming Barangay elections will be conducted in a free and nonpartisan manner, President Marcos said yesterday. As he urged the people to participate fully in the polls. The elections will enhance the cause of participatory democracy in the countryside, he said. It will provide an opportunity for people to choose the leaders to run the affairs of the country's basic political units. The Barangay elections bill, which the president signed into law, provide for the election of a Barangay captain and 6 councilmen in each of the 45,000 Barangays throughout the country. The special elections law provides for a direct, nonpartisan election of the local officials, who will constitute the Barangay councils. [Text] [HK280433 Baguio Mountain Province Broadcasting Corporation in English 0400 GMT 28 Mar 82]

RENEGOTIATE U.S. BASES ACCORD--The Philippines will press for an early renegotiation of the RP-U.S. military bases agreement, to remove the remaining inequities and irritants in the bilateral accord. The renegotiation is provided for in the bases agreement, which states that the accord will be reviewed by both parties every 5 years. The president disclosed the government's intention on the bases accord during an interview with newsmen in Baguio City. This is in preparation for the discussions with U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, who is scheduled to arrive in Manila on Thursday. Their talks will cover a wide range of defense and security development of mutual concern to the Philippines and Southeast Asia on the one hand and to the United States on the other. The American defense chief is in the course of a visit to three American allies in the Far East to review plans for mutual defense modernization. His tour has taken him to Japan and he is now in South Korea. [Text] [HK290817 Manila Domestic Service in English 0800 GMT 29 Mar 82]

ROLE OF PHILIPPINE ARMY STRESSED--President Marcos called on the military to actively take part in maintaining the people's dignity through freedom from political, social and economic ills. Mr Marcos said this during the graduation rites held at the Philippine Military Academy in Baguio City. In his speech President Marcos also stressed the supervisory role of the civilian authority over the military. He said that military power must always be subject to supervision by the civilian authority. He noted that the country's economic growth and the rise of people's incomes made insurgents resort to desperate steps like terrorism. The president also asked the military to take part in the Livelih program. [Excerpts] [HK290109 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 28 Mar 82]

CSO: 4220/449

EDITORIAL DISCUSSES COUP POSSIBILITY

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 2 Mar 82 p 4

[Editorial: "An Old Political Tune"]

[Text] When there are rumors of a coup, it is customary for military officers to come out and claim that this will definitely not occur. In fact, in an underdeveloped country such as Thailand, coups have become a symbol. Such events are really power struggles between members of the military. The effect on the people is that after a coup, parliament is dissolved and the constitution is torn up. This sets back democracy tens of years.

The reality of recent political history is that the people have not been afforded any guarantees. In 1956, General Sarit Thanarat, the commander in chief of the army, assured Field Marshal Phibun Songkhram that he would not carry out a coup. But in September 1957, there was a coup. When General Krit Siwara joined the United Thai People's Party government, he said that whoever carried out a coup would be crazy. But when the events of 14 October 1973 broke out, it was this general who played a role in forcing Field Marshal Thanom Kittikhachon, Field Marshal Praphat Charusathien and Colonel Narong Kittikhachon into exile abroad. In fact, this was a quiet coup.

General Prem Tinsulanon became prime minister in March 1980 with the support of the young turks but in April 1981 these same young turks tried to carry out a coup. But they failed. At present, some elements of the young turks are political allies of General Kriangsak Chamanan, the leader of the National Democracy Party. This shows their intention of returning to political power again. In a political situation in which the political parties are divided, military circles have split into different factions and the economic situation is so bad that it cannot be corrected any time soon, even if army officers affirm that there will not be a coup, there is little guarantee of this.

The best political guarantee for the present situation is not in talk but in action. The real heart of democratic thinking is generosity, the boldness to allow there to be differences of opinion and fearlessness in the face of conflicts that may develop into understanding or that may sometimes lead to a split when necessary. Spreading rumors of a coup to threaten the people so that they cannot express their views or carry on movements to ask for

their rights amounts to suppressing democracy and causes thoughts of surrender to arise. As for the way to develop democracy so that it moves from a "semi" democracy to a perfect democracy, the first thing, the absolute basis, is to have political patience and hasten the day when the people will have a greater role in administering the country. The greater the role that the people play in administering the country, the less likely it is that there will be a coup. And the democratic system will have a chance to shine brightly in a real way and not be just a dream.

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CSO: 4207/69

THAILAND

PRAPHAT DISCUSSES HIS POLITICAL FUTURE

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 19 Feb 82 pp 1, 2

[Article: "Dangers All Around the Country Pointed Out: The Situation Is Very Violent, Politics Is Dirty and Without Rules"]

[Excerpts] Field Marshal Praphat Charusathien announced that he would keep out of politics at present because it is dirty and there are no rules or codes of conduct. He pointed out the dangers facing the nation and said that, at present, Thailand is facing dangers all around the country. Our soldiers have not fought in more than 200 years. This is opposite from the enemy, who have been fighting constantly for 40 years. But we are not at a disadvantage.

Field Marshal Praphat Charusathien, the former minister of interior in the "day of great sorrow" government gave an interview at the Rung Rot Restaurant behind the Ratchadoemnoen Boxing Stadium yesterday afternoon. He discussed the present political problems, saying that he had been out of politics for a long time. He said that it is difficult to look at politics today; everything is political. He will definitely not get involved in politics at present. But he will not say for sure what he will do in the future because this is in the future. [He said that] if asked his real feelings, he would have to say that he would like to stay out of politics because it is so dirty; there are no rules or codes of conduct.

But when asked whether he intended to form a political party in the future, Field Marshal Praphat answered; "How could I form a political party? I do not have the money." He did admit that some people had asked him to become the head of a political party. But when he told them he did not have much money, they left.

BAN MUANG asked his views about the situation in the country since he was formerly in the government. He was also asked about the army and whether things are different from when he held power. Field Marshal Praphat said that concerning the condition of our army at present, he has not been involved very much. It is difficult for him to tell how things are different from when he was in power because the form of the army has changed with the times. And so it is difficult to say how it differs. But like the people, he feels

that the various branches of the military are doing a satisfactory job in defending the nation.

As for the border situation, as far as he can determine, the present situation is more violent than he has ever seen because we have never before faced dangers all around the country like today. At present, it can be said that Thailand is facing dangers throughout the country because of the changed combat situation that resulted from America's withdrawal from Asia.

When asked about the lawsuit calling on him to return, to the state, the money that he obtained from a local paper when he was in power, Field Marshal Praphat said that he had told them that he did not have the money. "They said that I stole the money; I said that I didn't. They came and gave it to me; I took it and deposited it in a bank. My secretary received the money and deposited it in the bank account. At present, the government has sequestered all my assets and I cannot return it. If they want it back they must get it from the government. I have hired a lawyer to fight the case," said the former minister of interior in the "day of great sorrow" government " in conclusion.

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CSO: 4207/69

THAILAND

ORE PRODUCTION, EXPORTS DROP

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 18 Feb 82 pp 3, 10

[Article: "Thailand's Tin Production Drops"]

[Text] A report from the Department of Natural Resources has discussed the production and export of tin, which is the ore that generates the most income for the country. It stated that in 1981, approximately 42,968 metric tons valued at 9,654.9 million baht were produced. This is approximately 6.6 percent less than was produced in 1980 and the value dropped approximately 16.4 percent. In particular, production in the off-shore mines along the west coast, which used to produce large quantities, fell about 27.7 percent.

The report also stated that, last year, Thailand produced 35 types of ore with a total value of 11,900.6 million baht. This is 2,064.3 million baht, or approximately 15 percent, less than the 1980 level.

As for exports in 1981, Thailand exported 22 types of ore products valued at 11,856.4 million baht. This is about 20.6 percent less than in 1980 when the value of ore exports reached a total of 14,934.6 million baht. Of this amount, 9,652.7 million baht was accounted for by tin, which is approximately 13.6 percent below the 1980 figure. This has caused Thailand to fall from being the leading exporter of tin to only third behind Malaysia and Indonesia.

Besides this, the state earned 3,188.6 million baht from mining fees. This is 838.2 million baht, or approximately 20.8 percent, less than in 1980.

The report stated that the important reason behind this drop in Thailand's ore production and exports is that ore prices on world markets have fallen on the average. In particular, during the first 6 months of 1981, the price of tin fell greatly. In addition, the mines did not yield as much ore and the various expenses of the mines, such as labor and fuel costs, rose. This forced some mines to cease operations. Besides this, calx and tantalum, which are two types of ore that earned a large income in 1980, fell greatly in price because of less demand. This has caused the Thai mining industry in general to go into a decline following the general economic situation throughout the world.

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CSO: 4207/68

EDITORIAL: SUPPRESSION OF CPT WON'T STOP INSURGENCY

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 26 Feb 82 p 3

[Editorial: "Observations On the Suppression of Communist Terrorists"]

[Text] Lieutenant General Han Linanon, the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area, has tried to accomplish things, in accord with his statement that the terrorist problem in the south must be solved, by carrying on a large suppression campaign in Surat Thani Province, which began on 18 February. To date, the forces of the terrorists have scattered after their bases were attacked. And the government forces have been able to kill many terrorists, capture large numbers of weapons and seize large amounts of war materials. But the government side has lost many men in this suppression operation.

As has been observed, Nakhon Sithamarat Province has been an important assembly area of the terrorists for many years. The government side has not been able to suppress them resolutely and thus the question of why this is so has arisen. Concerning the "umbrella of tranquility plan" that has been put forth in order to solve this problem, [people] doubt that this plan will be fulfilled in accord with the aims. But at present it is too early to tell.

It seems that Lieutenant General Han Linanon is trying to do something in order to erase the charge that a "few terrorists are being allowed to remain in order to have a suppression budget." We do not know how true this is, but we want to repeat once again that this suppression method is the last way to solve the problem.

The reason that this must be repeated once again is that it is necessary to again remind the government that eliminating terrorism is like treating a disease. A way must be found to prevent the disease before it arises. Because once the disease arises, it is difficult to cure, and sometimes it cannot be cured.

It is said that the terrorism in the south did not arise because of any direct preference for communism but rather because the country's apparatus for preserving the law and dispensing justice did not function properly. And in some cases government officials used their power unfairly to oppress the people. In particular, some administrative officials and military groups have placed themselves above the people rather than helping the people or providing services for them.

Because of being oppressed and exploited like this, those who have been treated unjustly have often turned to using illegal means in order to take revenge. This is one reason that the communists have easily been able to persuade these people to join them.

Thus, it is greatly hoped that in carrying on this terrorist suppression operation, the government officials will do things carefully and not end up forcing innocent people to unwittingly become the target of this suppression operation.

We thus want to support this terrorist suppression operation so that it achieves the results intended and so that the south achieves the "tranquility" that is hoped for.

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FOREIGN MINISTRY REJECTS BBC REPORT ON KAMPUCHEA

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 28 Feb 82 p 11

[Foreign Views of Thailand column by Makruksaneha: "The Case of the Dispute Between the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the BBC"]

[Text] It can be said that the Kampuchean problem has caused the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs to open a campaign to deny a report issued by the BBC. And even though the BBC is partly at fault, it has insisted that the weakness lies with the Free Asia radio of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since it was the source of the report.

The details are as follows:

1. The Thai-language BBC broadcast at 1915 hours on the evening of Tuesday, 16 February, reported:

"The Thai government has agreed to take part in a regional conference on the Kampuchean matter. This was announced by Mr Arun Phanuphong, the Thai deputy minister of foreign affairs, after talking with Mr Narasimha Rao, the Indian minister of external affairs, in Bangkok.

"The BBC correspondent stationed in Southeast Asia has stated that it looks as if this statement is in accord with the view of Vietnam, which feels that regional disputes should be discussed by the countries in the region."

As for MATICHON, if Thailand has agreed to a regional conference, this is a very important change in attitude, a story that would make the headlines in the newspapers. This is because, from the beginning, Thailand and Asean have insisted on holding a multinational conference in order to solve the Kampuchean problem. This is because all the great powers that have a role in this war must agree too.

But Vietnam has not agreed and has proposed that a regional conference be held. This regional conference proposed by Vietnam would allow Heng Samrin to participate too but would exclude the other Khmer groups. This is Vietnam's condition that no one else can accept.

For this reason, on Wednesday, 17 February, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs denied the BBC report.

2. Then on the evening of 17 February, the BBC Thai-language broadcast reported the following:

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bangkok has issued a statement saying that, in a BBC Thai-language report broadcast yesterday, it was reported that Thailand had agreed to hold a regional conference in order to solve the Kampuchean problem.

"The Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that the BBC had reported that Dr Arun Phanuphong, the Thai deputy minister of foreign affairs, had stated this during discussions with Mr Narasimha Rao, the Indian minister of external affairs who came for a visit at the beginning of the week. The ministry also stated that the BBC had commented that this seemed to be in accord with Vietnam's proposal.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has thus issued a statement saying that this BBC report was completely incorrect and that Dr Arun Phanuphong had never, on any occasion, made any such statement or expressed any such viewpoint to anyone.

"This BBC Thai-language report was filed by Jack Thompson, a BBC correspondent stationed in Southeast Asia. He wrote this report based on a report concerning the visit to Thailand by Mr Narasimha Rao, a report that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs broadcast over its own Voice of Free Asia Radio.

"This report stated that a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had revealed that India was happy to learn that the Thai government attached great importance to a regional conference, in addition to an international conference, in attempting to solve the problems and disputes in Kampuchea.

"As for expressing such feelings as reported by the radio, it was Mr Rao who expressed these feelings during his meeting with Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sewetsila, the Thai minister of foreign affairs, a meeting that lasted more than 1 hour and 30 minutes.

"Jack Thompson said that he had asked to take an excerpt from the report by the Voice of Free Asia and had reported that Dr Arun Phanuphong, the Thai deputy minister of foreign affairs who took part in these discussions, told the Indian minister of external affairs, that Thailand was in favor of participating in a regional conference in order to solve the Kampuchean problem. This can be seen since the time Dr Arun met with the Vietnamese minister of foreign affairs in Burma last year.

"However, concerning this report, after the original English version was translated into Thai by the Thai section of the BBC and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bangkok translated it back into English, it seems that the phrase

'was in favor of participating in a regional conference' was translated as 'agreed to hold this conference.'

"But Jack Thompson stated that it is certain that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs radio, which wrote its report based on a statement made by a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which is responsible for the broadcasts of the Voice of Free Asia Radio, took the statement of Dr Arun and reported it, using the same words that Jack Thompson used in his report."

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MURDER FOR HIRE, MP'S INFLUENCE PEDDLING CONDEMNED

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 15 Jan 82 pp 4, 5

[Free Thoughts, Forest Breezes and Sunshine column by Nui Bangkhunthien:
"The Country's Image"]

[Text] Concerning the attempt to kill Mr Ronarong Malanon, an MP from Chachoengsao and a member of the National Democracy Party, based on what has happened, there are several reasons to be suspicious of things.

First, when Mr Sarayut Chanakun, an MP from Chainat and a member of the Social Action Party, was killed and the police arrested Police Master Sergeant Anan Suksan and charged him with being the person who had ordered [the killing], the case was not concluded and Police Master Sergeant Anan used the opportunity while his name was in the news to stand for election in the by-election for MP. And he was elected. This may be a way for those who are in a hurry to become an MP.

Second, the plan to kill Mr Ronarong was made in a very careless way. No professional gunman would have done things this way. If you want to kill someone, you must make the attempt at a time when the victim least suspects and cut off all chance of the victim fighting back or fleeing. As for the fact that the gunman walked up quietly behind the intended victim, called to the victim to turn around and said "I have been hired to kill you," unless it is a matter of stupidity, this shows that he did not really intend to kill him. The gunman may have had some other secret purpose.

Third, during this period, someone released leaflets strongly attacking the government. The movement of the laborers was broken using military force but, creating other types of turmoil in order to make it seem like the government is incompetent will probably continue. If another MP is killed, the image of the government in the eyes of the people will deteriorate. This may lead to the toppling [of the government] so that the people who have made this plan can take power easily.

From the three points discussed above, it can be concluded that [people] are playing politics "underground" with the government of General Prem Tinsulanon.

As to the identities of those who are playing "underground," it is difficult to say who they are. At present, we can only make broad guesses.

Those politicians who have lost interests are the first group to catch our attention. These people want to return to power, and when they cannot fight openly and win, they use "underground" paths. They do not care about the methods used as long as they can achieve success.

Politicians who want power differ from the first group. They have never lost any interests but rather want to move forward toward the highest goal of a politician, which is to hold state power. Normally, when the country is at peace, these politicians will serve as the opposition and they will try to topple the government in accord with the rules of democracy. But sometimes, as has happened, they get impatient and try to topple the government in a hurry, which means that they use both dirty methods and legal methods together.

As for those under arms who have attached themselves to the government, this group includes both those who are still serving as government officials and politicians outside. As long as the government supports their interests, they will continue to side with the government. But if the time is right, they may kill their own benefactors in order to step up to a higher position.

The final ones that play "underground" against the government are secret international organizations. They try to gain influence over those with power and build a base so that their own side can benefit greatly. Such people look on Thailand as a toy. They may infiltrate governmental organizations, political groups and various influential groups that agree to their conditions.

The various assessments have resulted in a negative view of Thailand's situation. Whether our image can be restored depends on those who have state power and on the cooperation of all groups of Thais.

There should be an end to fighting, to dirty competition, to stabbing others in the back and to holding dogmatic positions because this will completely destroy society and we will easily fall victim to foreigners.

Those in high echelons who are responsible should be highly disciplined and have ideals in order to serve as models for the groups that follow.

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THAILAND

BANK OF THAILAND: FARMERS DON'T GET COMMERCIAL BANK CREDIT

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 10 Feb 82 pp 3, 10

"Article: "Bank of Thailand Says That Commerce Officials Are Not Interested In Agriculture. There Is a Shortage of Agricultural Officials, Which Is Against Government Policy"]

[Text] A report from the Agricultural Development Group of the Bank of Thailand (BOT) has revealed that, based on a field survey made in the various regions of the country, 50 percent of the commercial bank branches do not have an agricultural credit office. As for the other 50 percent of the branches, each of these branches has only one agricultural officer. And these agricultural credit officers do not handle just agricultural credit activities. They must also carry out other tasks at the branch as well, and this does not leave them with enough time to carry out activities or make plans concerning agricultural credit. As for those branches that do not have an agricultural credit officer, the banks place other credit officers or the branch manager in charge of giving agricultural credit. This is an important reason why there are obstacles in providing agricultural credit and why the goals that have been set cannot be reached.

The report also stated that activities in the field of agricultural credits are very complex and that they differ greatly from other credit activities. This is because those who receive this type of credit support are farmers, who are poor people. In addition, farming relies on the weather and this is never certain. In carrying out the work, [credit officers] must analyze the farmers' abilities to make a living, follow things to see that the money is being used in accord with the purposes for which it was given, go out and meet with the customers during the planting season and after the harvesting in order to see what the yields were like and see how [the farmers] are doing in paying their debts. These things must be done on an on-going basis. Thus, the agricultural credit officers must have received training and have studied this type of work directly. This will lead to results that are in accord with the goals.

The Agricultural Credit Development Group said that if the commercial banks establish an agricultural credit office in the rural district branches or in the muang district branches, which will provide an opportunity to expand agricultural credit activities, this will greatly benefit agricultural credit activities.

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EDITORIAL: KAREN REBELS POSE QUESTIONS FOR THAI SOVEREIGNTY

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 16 Feb 82 p 4

[Editorial: An Intangible Violation of Thai Sovereignty"]

[Text] There have been reports that textile merchants from the San Pheng area have joined with General Bo Mia, the leader of the Karen national liberation forces, in setting up a company that is monopolizing textile trade at the markets in Mae Sot District, Tak Province, which is where Thailand and Burma converge. This has thrown the textile markets there into a state of turmoil since this company has told the minority groups, who form the bulk of the customers there, that if they purchase cloth from other manufacturers, the Karen national liberation forces stationed in Burma near the Thai border will definitely not let them cross the border.

The governor of Tak Province is the one who reported this matter to the Ministry of Interior and the National Security Council gave a detailed report, stating that this monopoly has thrown the textile markets into a state of great turmoil. Other textile merchants cannot sell their cloth unless they agree to work for this company. Besides this, this has also generated fear among other merchants, such as those who sell processed foods, monosodium glutamate and milk. They are afraid that there will be a monopoly on other types of goods as well. As for the Karen national liberation group of General Bo Mia, what it gets in return is a share of the profits from the San Pheng merchants. This is in addition to the regular income it earns from collecting a transit tax from those who cross into Burma.

These Karen national liberation forces of General Bo Mia are stationed outside Thailand. They have rather strong ideals and do not have drug problems like the forces of Khun Sa or other minority forces. Previously, they never had any problems with Thailand. But recently, the Burmese government has stepped up its suppression activities and so these forces have moved closer to the Thai border for greater safety.

But no matter how strong the ideals of General Bo Mia's national liberation forces and regardless of whether they use their income to support their ideals, which is the private matter of these national liberation forces and which

does not concern Thailand, joining together with Thai merchants to form a monopoly in the border area inside Thailand must be considered to be a violation of Thailand's sovereignty. This is because, even though their forces and weapons are outside Thailand, since they have extended their influence and threatened [people] to the point where they have been able to force Thai markets into a state of turmoil, this is considered to be an intangible influence that is violating the integrity of Thailand.

We feel that the Thai government must take measures to quickly put a stop to such actions by the Karen national liberation forces. Since Thailand has never had any problems with these forces before, negotiating with General Bo Mia should not be difficult if our officials seriously point out the reasons. If the Karen forces really have strong ideals, they should understand and quickly be willing to stop engaging in such activities.

As for those merchants from Sam Pheng who have tried to gain influence and form a monopoly by relying on foreign forces, we feel that the government should consider and investigate this matter seriously since this amounts to betraying the country. But if it is found that they did this out of greed without really being aware of what they were doing, they should just be warned and threatened with punishment so that they do not engage in such activities again.

As for the various minority group forces along the border, the Thai government should implement resolute measures to prevent them from trespassing into our country again. The lessons from the Khun Sa case and from this case, and even from previous cases such as that of the 93rd Division, Lao Su and Lo Sing Han, should be sufficient to make the government abandon its dream of having these minority forces serve as a "buffer state" since it can be seen that the harm far outweighs the benefits, and it is not even certain that there have been any benefits.

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THAILAND

COLUMNIST: METROPOLITAN POLICE VIEW SELVES AS PRIVILEGED CLASS

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 20 Feb 82 pp 4,5

[Title: Thoughts, Forest Breezes and Sunshine column by Nui Bangkhunthien: "Improve the Police Image"]

[Text] I know why it is that the image [that the people have] of the police department is continually getting worse and cannot be improved. The first thing is that the work system of the Police Department encourages the use of privileges.

[Many] policemen have well-placed friends. If they do something wrong, no one wants to punish them. But as for those policemen without such friends, they are always blamed, even if they did nothing wrong.

Take the arrest of prostitutes at Hotel 28, for example, If the owner had not been the son of a minister, he would have been arrested long ago.

There is the case of a police cadet who violated the regulations. He was unhappy about the rules but instead of making an appeal through proper channels, he gathered together a group and demonstrated in front of the Pathumwan police station. The [police] commander ordered that things be done according to regulations. But a "friend" came to help and important religious people were pulled into the matter too. In the end, he received only very light punishment.

The worst thing is that [the police] are systematically accorded privileges. Many metropolitan police who started their government careers as lowly officers have been able to climb to the top. The provincial and border patrol police have only been able to watch them like crickets watching an airplane.

Police General Suraphon Chunlaphrom is above the rules. But try to criticize him. What did he have to do to crawl from the border into the position of director-general? How many crises did he have to pass through?

Why has the Police Department given special privileges to certain groups of policemen and allowed them to live well in the capital?

The words "living well" refer to the special privileges that they receive automatically. For example, they have the chance to "get close" to important politicians, who play a part in providing even greater protection. Living in a prosperous environment, it is easy for them to engage in corruption and many have done so until their death. None of the people who become police officers wants to "get stuck" in the countryside or in a remote area.

If it is claimed that the work in the capital is different from that in the provinces and that in order to achieve the best results it is necessary to use people only in the places that they have been trained for, this amounts to admitting that giving privileges will continue.

Policemen, whether in the countryside or in the cities, have the same duty and that is to uphold the law for all, not just for certain people, to eliminate the bandits and to create an orderly society.

All police officers have undergone the same training, attended the same institutes and had the same teachers. Why do they have to be separated, with this one working in the city, that one working only in the rural areas and that one working along the border?

Such a system destroys the capabilities of several hundred good policemen a year. This is because, since they have been forced to work far away, they have less chance to train and acquire skills. Since they come to the city only on occasion, they are like dull people who are familiar only with those problems that they have encountered. They are not aware of other problems. This is a system that destroy people.

The Police Department must change its structure. In doing this, it should not rely on the authority of the prime minister as has been planned. Just eliminate the system of privileges of the metropolitan police. Do not allow the influential people to do whatever they want. People should not be promoted just because they are close associates.

The provincial and border patrol police and other units should be rotated so that they have a chance to test their skills in the city.

At the same time, those policemen whose duties have involved them with the brothels, massage parlors, bars and other such places must be transferred and allowed to work in the rural areas too.

Concerning such a problem, it should not be left to the important people to solve. If the director-general of the Police Department is honest and really sincere about his profession, he can probably solve the problem by himself. If he holds fast to correct principles, resolutely follows the regulations, does not violate any laws and does not do anything that would harm any side, the director-general has the right to do this. If he does not do this but is content with a situation that is so weak that things are about to collapse, the image of the police will continue to deteriorate.

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ISLAMIC STUDIES BECOME PART OF SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 4 Jan 82 p 7

[Article by Manot Bunyanuwat: "Why Does Islam Have to Be Taught In the Schools In Education Region 2?"]

[Text] The Ministry of Education has announced that an Islamic studies curriculum has been implemented for use in primary and secondary schools. Permission for the primary schools to teach Islamic studies was given in school-year 1976. The secondary schools were given permission to teach this subject beginning in 1981.

In its capacity as coordinator for this, the Region 2 Education Office has prepared textbooks, lesson plans and instructor manuals and arranged seminars for the provinces in the education region. To date, approximately 400 primary school teachers and administrators have undergone training. As for the secondary level, a seminar for school administrators was held on 23 and 24 November 1981. It is expected that it will be possible to start providing instruction [in Islamic studies] at the beginning of the 1982 school year.

As for the subjects that are taught at both the primary and secondary levels five areas are given great emphasis. These are: religious principles, religious commandments, the Koran, morals and religious history. The instruction stresses practice as the important goal. As for instructional methods and evaluation, the curriculum is followed in all respects.

As for teachers, since it will probably not be possible to find enough permanent teachers at the beginning, the Ministry of Education has, for the time being, given permission to employ people with Islamic qualifications. As for those qualified people who will be allowed to teach, they must have completed at least MS 3 [lower secondary school] and have reached at least the middle level (grade 7) in Islamic studies. As for the selection of these instructors, they must be approved by the provincial Islamic committee and they must undergo training provided by the Region 2 Education Office. In the future, the Ministry

of Education will open up permanent positions for those who are qualified to serve as government teachers.

As for those people who do not live in the four southern border provinces, that is, Yala, Pattani, Satun and Narathiwat, when they heard about this they were probably very surprised since Buddhism and Christianity are not part of the curriculum. Why is Islam taught in the four southern provinces? Isn't this tantamount to establishing an unequal education system and establishing a special education system in Education Region 2?

In these four border provinces, approximately 71 percent of the 1.3 million people living here are Moslem. The rest are Buddhist or some other religion.

It is generally known that Moslems, regardless of where they are living in the world, are very strict about their religion. This is because Moslems believe that religion is life, law and national administration. The life of a Moslem, from his birth until his death, is bound up with his religion. His religion teaches him how to eat and live, how to live in society and how to dress. It teaches about sanitation and it even teaches about intercourse between husband and wife. Thus, religion and Moslems cannot be separated from each other.

In the four southern provinces, there are provincial Islamic committees that are responsible for handling matters concerning the business affairs and lives of the Moslems. There is a legal affairs dato assigned to the provincial court who renders decisions in cases concerning inheritances and family matters so that matters are settled in accord with Islamic law. They cooperate with the judges at the provincial courts.

The government has had to spend much money to build a central mosque in each province and has provided support for the construction of mosques in general, just as it has helped repair or improve temples for Buddhists.

As for both boys and girls who have entered primary school, in their after school hours or on Saturday and Sunday, they must go study religion at the home of an imam or at a private Islamic school. They do not hope to gain any rank or qualifications; they only want to gain knowledge of religious principles and practices.

Even after their children have finished their compulsory education, parents continue to send their children to study religion at private Islamic schools (which have always been called "ponoh" schools). These schools provide instruction at various levels and have a complete curriculum. There are three stages of instruction lasting 9-10 years. The first stage lasts 4 years, the middle stage lasts 3 years and the final stage lasts 2-3 years (the original curriculum required 2 years but the new curriculum calls for 3 years of study).

Children who attend private Islamic schools have the chance to study academic subjects (the general secondary school curriculum) as well.

But this does not mean that the students and their parents are interested only in religious education. The truth is that they are also interested in studying academic subjects as well.

Based on a survey conducted by the Region 2 academic supervisor in 1979, it was learned that 85 percent of the children who completed Grade 6 wanted to continue their education at the secondary level. But these children said that not all of them would continue their education because of lack of money and because of not knowing what to study or where to study.

In school year 1981, of the 11,634 Moslem students in the education region who completed Grade 6, 62.39 percent applied to enter M1 [secondary Grade 1]. Of these 28.3 percent (3,294) applied to private Islamic schools (ponoh) while only 19.28 percent (2,234) applied to secondary schools of the Department of General Education or to general private schools. In Yala Province, only 19.28 percent (2,234) [sic] of the Moslem students entered M1 [at general schools] but 40.78 percent (734) entered M1 at private Islamic schools. This is because the government secondary schools did not teach Islamic studies before.

This is also related to the number of schools. That is, the number of secondary schools is limited. The Department of General Education has only 49 schools in the entire region. But there are 63 private Islamic schools that provide instruction at the secondary level.

These figures clearly indicate that Moslem students want to continue their studies but that the most popular schools are not the government schools but rather the private Islamic schools.

The reason that the students and their parents prefer the private Islamic schools is that these Islamic schools teach both academic and religious subjects. Furthermore, the private Islamic schools charge low tuition fees. And the final reason is that by studying religion, these students will have a chance to continue their religious studies at the university level in the Middle East, which is the ultimate desire of a Moslem.

This shows that Moslems are firmly set on a religious path from the time they are small children. Thus, the Ministry of Education has given permission to teach Islamic studies in the primary and secondary schools (and such instruction will be provided at the university level too) in response to social and local demand. This is in harmony with the government policy in all periods. Thus, there should no longer be any doubt as to why it is necessary to teach Islamic studies in the four southern provinces.

Even in the first paragraph of the "umbrella of tranquility" policy of Lieutenant general Han Linanon, the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area, it is

clearly stated that "peace and safety will be created for the people and their property in this region." Islam will have to be promoted. In particular, in five provinces (Yala, Pattani, Satun, Narathiwat and Songkhla), Islam will be taught at all levels, from primary through secondary school. And in the future, Songkhla Nakharin University will open an Islamic studies program at the BA level. It will not be necessary for Moslems to go abroad to study.

Now, all sides are responding to the needs of their Moslem brothers concerning promoting religion. Thus, it is hoped that in the near future the Moslems will be able to receive both Islamic and worldly education at the same time. The only thing is that there should be action, not just talk.

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